



**Planning Department
168 North Edwards Street
Post Office Drawer L
Independence, California 93526**

**Phone: (760) 878-0263
FAX: (760) 872-2712
E-Mail: inyoplanning@inyocounty.us**

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND INTENT

Notice is hereby given that a Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact has been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Inyo County CEQA Procedures, and are available for public review for the following application:

Amendment to Reclamation Plan 96-12

The applicant has applied for an amendment to Reclamation Plan 96-12. The project proposes expanded mining operations at Keeler Pit MS #300 for continued maintenance of dirt shoulders in Inyo County. Approximately 300,000 cubic yards of material will be extracted from the site over a 30 to 50-year span in an 8.1 acre-expansion area. Mining will occur in 4 phases, entailing the creation of a dirt access road and material extraction pit east and southeast of the existing pit. Four to six inches of topsoil will be relocated to soil berms on the north, south and east edges of the pit. The pit will be graded to ensure storm water containment (final slope configuration 3:1 or flatter). All equipment storage and operations will occur within the limits of the existing (lower) pit. A retention basin, to manage and contain all storm water, will be constructed in the lower pit.

The 30-day review period for this Draft Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact begins on September 1, 2020 and expires on October 31, 2020. During this period comments may be submitted regarding the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration. Inyo County is not required to respond to any comments received after this date. Written comments and all questions should be addressed to the Inyo County Planning Department at P.O. Drawer "L," Independence, CA 93526, faxed to (760) 878-0382, or emailed to inyoplanning@inyocounty.us.

Copies of the Initial Study and Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact for this project are available for review at the Inyo County Planning Department (168 N. Edwards Street, Independence), County libraries, and the Inyo County Planning Department's website at www.inyocounty.us/services/planning-department/current-projects.