

**Mining Sustainability Meeting  
March 10, 2005**

**Notes**

PRESENT:

Elaine Barkdull  
Sheri Eklund Brown  
Jon Hutchings  
Paul Killpatrick  
Dirk van Zyl (teleconference)  
Joan Whitney

From Battle Mountain:

Jo-An Barnett  
Rod Davis  
Charlene Mitchel  
Kim Nelson  
Jerry Smith

[www.unr.edu/mines/mlc](http://www.unr.edu/mines/mlc)

WEBSITE UPDATE

Nothing new has happened on the website. Dirk is waiting for information from Jim for the CD. Dirk will develop new page for Battle Mountain Group and will update the Elko group with all of the minutes from last year.

1. Ongoing Interaction with Battle Mountain Group  
There was a follow up meeting last week in Lander County. The next LEDA meeting is on March 24 at Battle Mountain Civic Center. Each group should continue with separate meetings to develop their own strategies. Then have both groups meet twice per year. The Battle Mountain Group is still collaborating on vision and what they are doing. Their first few meetings have been very productive.
2. Outreach to Winnemucca  
Discussed when we want outreach to Winnemucca and who should be invited. Talked about a Winnemucca workshop fashioned after the Elko workshop. Need to get input from Jerry Hepworth (Coeur Rochester), Turquoise Ridge and Newmont, who will probably take the lead in Winnemucca. Players that are paying are onboard too.
3. Potential Workshop in June on Sustainability  
Dirk hopes to do another day and a half workshop on mining closure issues during week of June 20. It's a good time to do a session on sustainability indicators. Looking at what we want to measure and where we are making progress. We can have representatives

from the Battle Mountain Group work through the process so it's meaningful to the community.

4. Other Business Opportunities

Jon Hutchings, Natural Resource Manager for Eureka County, was at the meeting to discuss his testimony to the Jim Gibbons hearing on mining sustainability. Jon is the Natural Resources Manager for Eureka County. He put together some history that led to the four major issues of mining sustainability and the relationship between the mines and communities. (See his report attached.)

Amend the county and federal land use plans. Normally, the mines do reclamation and clean-up the land back to livestock use. Communities haven't been giving direction on what they want the land for and possibly keeping the infrastructure. They should get involved and weigh in on this so that they have a role in what is done after the mines close. Needs to be a joint vision and regional effort.

Paul introduced Joan Whitney who works for Cortez as a Cultural Liaison. She works with the Temoak tribe. She has been dealing with major issues making communications tense; stymied by outside entities. She was Impressed with workshop in Battle Mountain a couple of weeks ago. Trying to find a way of dealing with the problems with the tribal communities.

Communication is important and we need to pass on information to each group of what we are doing. Cross pollinating – needs assessment, and opportunities available and the mines have been involved. Convince the neighborhood that they have to participate so that it's a grassroots' supported effort. Jim Collard says that the mines aren't here to tell you what to do; they are here to see that the communities realize the resources to get things done so that they realize their vision for the community.

Dirk – if we are going to help start this communication process we may have to start with a different topic than what we are discussing; i.e. it maybe best to start the discussion about matters that are not contentious so that trust can be established.

5. UPDATES:

Elaine Barkdull spent 3 days in Carson City talking to senators and the Lt. Governor. There is a bill draft offering Elko one million dollars for the proposed Union Pacific transloading facility. This is a way of the future for UP. We will be documenting how they went through this procedure and how we gained community support, business, mines, SPPCO partnerships so quickly. Rail service is the most affordable way of transporting goods. One reason we haven't been about to get business here was the lack of rail service.

Leta Collard reported that the Stewardship group is engaged in looking at their function and where they want to go in the future. They will be have an action planning meeting on April 21.

Jim Collard on behalf of Newmont and Placer Dome thanks everyone who participated in the Battle Mountain workshop and the Stewardship group. Jim thinks there could be a resource to get a resource manager for Lander Co. and maybe share that person and maybe the mines could help support that position.

Leta discussed this in the past with Sherry; this whole business of community based stewardship needs to be networked to the community and feels an adjunct professor who is seated at the academic facility and network out; needs a professional who has the ability for the professional coordination with all of the entities to get it done. Eco system environment is becoming a strong movement throughout the west and this inst can help with that.

#### Battle Mountain

Lost opportunities: copper basin outside of town has been reclaimed and infrastructure has been taken out. At another mine the infrastructure is being taken out. There are opportunities happening right now that we are missing. The time is right to take advantages of these opportunities. It doesn't matter what county it is in.

Discussion on what this committee is about. This committee is a clearing house for information to come through. This is an action group and we are here to make things happen. One thing that did happen come out of this was the Battle Mountain group. We plant seeds. The people involved on the committee support outreach; each can take information to their areas. This forum will project or generate questions that lead to action.

Ann Carpenter was on a panel discussing the reform of 1872 mining law. Jim Gibbons gave a talk and Ann talked about the Women's Mining Coalition. People need to be out there and make sure that the legislatures know what they want. Mining sustainability was discussed.