

State of Nevada)
ss.)
County of Elko)

Richard J. Moorhead, first being duly sworn, deposes and says:

I am the duly authorized agent of NEWMONT GOLD COMPANY, a Delaware corporation ("Newmont"), and am personally acquainted with the matters described herein.

Newmont, whose address is 555 Fifth Street, Elko, Nevada 89801, is Manager of the Newmont/Barrick HD Venture, whose participants lease the unpatented mining claims described in Exhibit A attached hereto (the "Claims"). The owners of the Claims are Drury J. Thiercof and Frances Mae Thiercof, whose address is P.O. Box 818, Carlin, Nevada 89822.

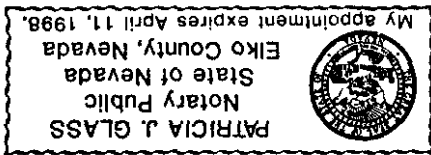
It is the intention of the participants of the Newmont/Barrick HD Venture and the owners of the claims leased or otherwise controlled by Newmont to maintain and develop the Claims as is provided for by law, and to hold the same to and through 11:59 a.m., September 1, 1997.

Newmont has paid a maintenance fee of \$100 and met the federal fee requirements for each of the Claims for the assessment year ending September 1, 1997, as required by Public Law 103-66, 107 Stat. 312 and 43 C.F.R. Part 3830 (and, to the extent applicable to any of the Claims, the Act of August 11, 1955, 69 Stat. 681 and 43 C.F.R. Part 3730, and the Act of April 8, 1948, 62 Stat. 162 and 43 C.F.R. Subpart 3821), in lieu of the suspended assessment work and filing requirements of 30 U.S.C. § 28-28e and 43 U.S.C. § 1744(a) and (c). This affidavit is made pursuant to N.R.S. § 517.230.

Richard J. Moorhead
Richard J. Moorhead

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 1 day of October, 1997, by Richard J. Moorhead.

Patricia J. Glass
Notary Public



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FILING FOR 1996/1997 ASSESSMENT YEAR