

Once recorded, please return to
Attn: Land Department
BHP Minerals International Inc.
550 California St.
San Francisco, CA 94104

AFFIDAVIT OF EVIDENCE OF PAYMENT
AND
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO HOLD MINING CLAIMS

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
)
) ss.
)
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Linda A. Turner, being first duly sworn, states and says:

1. I make this affidavit on behalf of BHP Minerals International Exploration, Inc., a Delaware corporation, with offices at 550 California St., San Francisco, CA 94104, an owner, lessee or other interested party in the properly referenced herein.

2. The reason for this Notice of Intention To Hold Mining Claims is to indicate compliance with Public Law 102-381, 106 Stat. 1374 - The Federal Appropriations Act of October 5, 1992 and Public Law 103-66 - The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of August 10, 1993, pursuant to which BHP Minerals International Exploration Inc. paid the requisite \$100.00 for each non-exempt mining claim, millsite or tunnel site, described below, for the assessment year ending September 1, 1998, in lieu of the requirement to perform and record affidavits of proof of annual assessment work for mining claims pursuant to the provisions of the Code of Federal Regulation, Title 43, Subpart 3833, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, and in lieu of the requirement to record notices of intent to hold millsites under 30 U.S.C. Sections 28-28e and 43 U.S.C. Section 1744.

3. The federal holding fees were paid on or before August 31, 1997 for the assessment year ending September 1, 1998, for the mining claims situated in Eureka County, Nevada, more particularly described as follows:

See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

4. The name(s) and mailing address of the owner(s) of the mining claims is: BHP Minerals International Exploration Inc., 550 California Street, San Francisco, CA 94104.

5. The serial number assigned to each claim by the authorized officer upon filing a copy of the Notice of Location in the proper B.L.M. office is shown on Exhibit "A". As provided in 43 C.F.R. Section 3833.2-2(a)(1) this serial number constitutes a description of each claim.

6. Notwithstanding any defect or deficiency in the foregoing affidavit, the undersigned states that it is not his intention, nor is it the intention of any of the owners of the claims described in Exhibit "A" to abandon or otherwise relinquish their interest in any of the claims. It is their intention to hold each of the mining claims described in Exhibit "A" through the assessment years ending September 1, 1998.

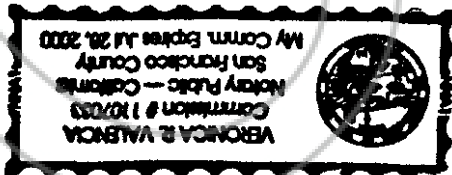
The affiant swears that the foregoing is true and correct.
Dated and signed this 16th day of October, 1997.

BHP MINERALS INTERNATIONAL EXPLORATION INC.

By [Signature]
Agent for BHP Minerals International
Exploration Inc.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of October, 1997, by
Linda A. Turner.

[Signature]
Notary Public, State of California



My Commission Expires:
July 28, 2000

EXHIBIT A

Vinini Creek 39 VC Certificates of Location located in Eureka County, NV
Township 23N, Range 50E and 51E; Sections 6,7,1

Name of Claim	Book	Page	BLM Serial #
VC #102	290	487	NMC 727592
VC #104	290	488	NMC 727593
VC #106	290	489	NMC 727594
VC #108	290	490	NMC 727595
VC #109	290	491	NMC 727596
VC #110	290	492	NMC 727597
VC #111	290	493	NMC 727598
VC #112	290	494	NMC 727599
VC #113	290	495	NMC 727600
VC #114	290	496	NMC 727601
VC #115	290	497	NMC 727602
VC #116	290	498	NMC 727603
VC #117	290	499	NMC 727604
VC #118	290	500	NMC 727605
VC #120	290	501	NMC 727606
VC #122	290	502	NMC 727607
VC #124	290	503	NMC 727608
VC #126	290	504	NMC 727609
VC #128	290	505	NMC 727610
VC #130	290	506	NMC 727611
VC #132	290	507	NMC 727612
VC #134	290	508	NMC 727613
VC #149	290	509	NMC 727614
VC #150	290	510	NMC 727615
VC #151	290	511	NMC 727616
VC #152	290	512	NMC 727617
VC #153	290	513	NMC 727618
VC #154	290	514	NMC 727619
VC #155	290	515	NMC 727620
VC #156	290	516	NMC 727621
VC #157	290	517	NMC 727622
VC #158	290	518	NMC 727623
VC #159	290	519	NMC 727624
VC #160	290	520	NMC 727625
VC #161	290	521	NMC 727626

Name of Claim

Book

Page

BLM Serial #

VC #162
VC #163
VC #164
VC #165

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290
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524
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NMC 727627
NMC 727628
NMC 727629
NMC 727630

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OFFICIAL RECORDS
RECORDED AT THE REQUEST OF
B.H. Nevada
97 OCT 27 PM 1:23
ERIEKA COUNTY NEVADA
M.H. REBAL EATL. RECORDER
FILE NO. FEES/36.50
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