

From: [Luke Barrett](#)
To: [Runyan, Joshua](#)
Cc: [Gosselin, Danielle](#); [Denton, Peter](#); [Rachel McNamara](#); [Alan Summerville](#); [Blake Fox](#); [Assenza, Adam](#)
Subject: RE: FD-36889: NGM Rail, Info Request #1
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026 7:25:31 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Josh,

The data requested in Information Request #1 has been uploaded to the OEA portal. Below is NGM's response to each item requested in red:

Provide geospatial boundary information (Ecological Side Descriptions, Vegetation & Wildlife Resources Buffer and Water Resources Buffer) for the two survey extents from the 2021 Baseline Study.

NGM does not have a project geodatabase or other GIS data to support the 2021 and 2022 biological baseline report by ERM. Per the 2021 Report, ESD, vegetation and wildlife resources were surveyed within 200 feet of project centerline and water resources were field surveyed within 400-feet of project centerline. ESD's appear to be clipped to ¼ mile of centerline on the figures contained in Appendix 2, but this data appears to be publicly available data from Web Soil Survey.

2. Provide geospatial boundary information for the extent of the area covered by the Barrick

Bank Enabling Agreement (BEA). Also provide the location of any habitat restoration and/or protection activities to be conducted under either the BEA or the State of Nevada's

Conservation Credit System in the vicinity of the proposed alignments.

NGM has uploaded shapefiles of the BEA boundary and the location of current mitigation occurring under the BEA to the OEA Portal. The rail alternatives enter the BEA boundary, but no mitigation action intersects any of the rail alternatives. Please note, most of the BEA mitigation occurs east of the Cortez Mine on the other side of the Cortez hills. There are no known projects occurring in the vicinity of the rail project associated with the State of Nevada CCS program. Nevada Gold did conduct field and desktop CCS debit calculations for the proposed rail alignment in 2022, but these surveys are now expired and no longer valid. For the rail project, it is anticipated that NGM will have to re-conduct field and desktop evaluation following the CCS and/or BEA.

3. Provide the 2021/2022 Work Plan approved by the Bureau of Land Management for biological baseline reporting, and any amendments if applicable.

The 2021 and 2022 Workplans have been uploaded to the OEA Portal.

4. Provide the following reports cited in the NGM Alternatives Analysis Report dated January 2026:

i. Air Sciences, 2022a. NEPA Air Quality Impact Analysis Report –

Goldrush Mine. Air Sciences, Inc. February 2020, Revised October 2022.

Uploaded to Portal

ii. Air Sciences, 2022b. Technical Memorandum: Air Quality Analysis of the Nevada Gold Mines Ore Transportation Project. Air Sciences, Inc. April 18, 2022.

Uploaded to Portal

iii. Terracon, 2022. Cortez Route-Alignment Alternatives. Preliminary Geotechnical Engineering Report. Terracon Project No. 61225159. Prepared for RailPros. October 4, 2022.

Uploaded to Portal, slight discrepancy in the date, October 18, 2022

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks,

Luke



Luke Barrett

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From: Assenza, Adam <Adam.Assenza@stb.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 9, 2026 1:32 PM

To: Runyan, Joshua <jrunyan@steptoe.com>

Cc: Gosselin, Danielle <Danielle.Gosselin@stb.gov>; Denton, Peter <pdenton@steptoe.com>; Rachel McNamara <rmcnamara@vhb.com>; Alan Summerville <asummerville@vhb.com>; Blake Fox <bfox@vhb.com>; Luke Barrett <luke.barrett@nevadagoldmines.com>

Subject: FD-36889: NGM Rail, Info Request #1

Hello Josh,

Please find attached OEA's first information request for this environmental review. We ask that you respond by March 24. OEA also received confirmation that NGM Rail is available to assist in facilitating our initial site visit during the week of April 13 to April 17, and we will begin planning accordingly.

Thank you,

Adam



Adam Assenza

Environmental Protection Specialist
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