

In 2011 Kennecott Utah Copper LLC announced a proposal to expand the life of its Bingham Canyon Mine located in the southwest Salt Lake County. The expansion project, called "Cornerstone," included widening the Bingham Canyon pit to accommodate operations focused on the mining and processing of ore located on the southeast margin of the pit. The expansion project will require Kennecott to coordinate the modification of existing State of Utah protection permits that are currently associated with their mining operations.

Kennecott Utah Copper has an existing ground water discharge permit for copper tailings disposal into the Tailings Impoundment near Magna, UT. Permit UGW350011, issued by the Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality (DWQ), has been in effect since 1995. This permit requires Kennecott to actively monitor the ground water quality in areas that may be affected by their tailings operation.

As part of Cornerstone, Kennecott has requested approval to enlarge the footprint of the tailings impoundment to accommodate their expansion of the Bingham Canyon Mine. As of the date of this notice, the expansion is still under consideration and has not been approved in a separate action by the Army Corps of Engineers.

The proposed UGW350011 Ground Water Discharge Permit modification does not approve size expansion. It incorporates planned changes to groundwater and surface water monitoring, and establishes protection levels for groundwater quality if the facility is expanded in size. This permit only focuses on ground water quality. If the facility is enlarged, there will be no change in the types of materials that are currently put into the existing or expanded impoundment. These materials are listed in the Statement of Basis and in the permit.