

**AMENDMENT 1 TO THE
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT,
ELKO DISTRICT OFFICE, TUSCARORA FIELD OFFICE (BLM)
AND THE
NEVADA HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER (SHPO)
AND
GOLD STANDARD VENTURES CORPORATION
REGARDING
RAILROAD MINERAL EXPLORATION**

WHEREAS, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was executed on December 12, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the BLM, in consultation with the SHPO, has determined that Gold Standard Ventures' (GSV) Railroad Mineral Exploration project has had an adverse effect on three historic properties (26EK12293, 26EK12598, and 26EK12600); and

WHEREAS, annual monitoring of all historic properties within the area of potential effects (APE) by the qualified consultant hired by GSV revealed site changes had occurred on an additional nine (9) historic properties (26EK3587, 26EK12290, 26EK12291, 26EK12292, 26EK12298, 26EK12302, 26EK12303, 26EK12597, and 26EK12601); and

WHEREAS, the BLM has determined that the site changes at the nine historic properties are not directly related to mining activities or the actions of GSV and the BLM will address the continued preservation of these historic properties in a future Section 110a effort (54 U.S.C. § 306102(b)(2)) in consultation with the SHPO; and

WHEREAS, the BLM, in consultation with the SHPO and GSV have determined that one (1) cultural resource, 26EK12596, is not eligible for the NRHP and will not be addressed further; and

WHEREAS, the BLM, in consultation with the SHPO, has identified an additional nine (9) architectural resources that had not been previously recorded or evaluated for the NRHP; and

WHEREAS, the BLM, in consultation with the SHPO and GSV, has also proposed required edits to both the Dispute Resolution and Post-Review Discovery stipulations; and

WHEREAS, the BLM will send a copy of this executed amendment to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP); and

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with Stipulation VII of the MOA, the BLM, the SHPO, and GSV agree to amend the MOA as follows:

1. Amend the fourth **WHEREAS** clause so it reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the BLM has identified 11 historic properties and one (1) unevaluated site within the APE. The properties are eligible for the NRHP under the stated criterion including 26EK3587 (criterion d), 26EK12290 (criterion a), 26EK12291 (criteria a and d), 26EK12292 (criterion a), 26EK12293 (criterion d), 26EK12298 (criterion a), 26EK12302 (criterion a), 26EK12303 (criterion a), 26EK12597 (criterion a), 26EK12598 (unevaluated site due to safety reasons), 26EK12600 (criterion a), and 26EK12601 (criterion c and d) (Appendix B); and

2. Insert an additional WHEREAS clause after the fourth WHEREAS clause to read:

WHEREAS, the BLM, in consultation with the SHPO, has identified nine (9) historic architectural resources in the APE: S374, S376, S380, S381, S384, S385, S396, S398, and S401 (Appendix B); and

3. Add new Stipulation I:

I. EVALUATION

The cultural resource management (CRM) firm hired by GSV to carry out the work of Stipulations I, II, and IV will meet the BLM's and the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards appropriate for the resource being evaluated for the NRHP.

- A. The BLM shall ensure that the CRM hired by GSV evaluates all archaeological sites in the APE not previously evaluated under all of the Secretary's significance criteria of the NRHP during the 2017 field season (Appendix C).
 - B. The BLM shall ensure that the CRM firm hired by GSV evaluates the historic architectural resources within the APE (S374, S376, S380, S381, S384, S385, S396, S398, and S401) under all of the Secretary's significance criteria of the NRHP during the 2017 field season (Appendix C).
 - C. The BLM shall submit the results of all NRHP evaluation efforts to the SHPO. The SHPO shall have thirty (30) calendar days from their receipt to review and comment on any submission. In the event SHPO does not respond within the thirty (30) calendar days from its receipt, BLM may assume SHPO concurrence.
4. Add new Stipulation II

II. MITIGATION

- A. CRM in consultation with the BLM and SHPO, has prepared a Historic Properties Treatment Plan (Appendix C) for the subject undertaking.
 - B. BLM shall ensure that the CRM firm hired by GSV completes the entire fieldwork portion of the HPTP during the 2017 field season.
 - C. BLM shall submit the fieldwork report summary completed in accord with Stipulation II.A above to the SHPO for review and concurrence. If the SHPO does not respond within fifteen (15) working days of receipt of the summary document, BLM may assume concurrence with the contents of the summary.
5. Renumber Stipulation I "MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION THROUGH AVOIDANCE" as Stipulation III.
 6. Renumber Stipulation II "ANNUAL MONITORING" as Stipulation IV.
 7. Renumber Stipulation III "DURATION" as Stipulation V.
 8. Renumber Stipulation IV "POST-REVIEW DISCOVERIES" as Stipulation VI.

9. Amend Stipulation VI so it reads as follows:

- A. BLM shall ensure that all unplanned discoveries are treated in accordance with Section VI.B of the State Protocol Agreement between the BLM and SHPO (BLM 2014). If Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony are discovered during an undertaking involving BLM-managed lands, BLM will comply with Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and its implementing regulations at 43 CFR § 10, Subpart B. Human remains and associated grave goods discovered on private land will be handled according to the provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes 383.

In the event of an unplanned discovery, GSV shall notify the BLM immediately with written confirmation to follow. GSV shall not publically disclose the location of the find and BLM shall ensure that any human remains will be secured and preserved in place until a Notice to Proceed is issued by the BLM.

- B. If historic properties are discovered, the BLM, in consultation with the SHPO and GSV, shall attempt to resolve potential adverse effects from the undertaking through avoidance.
- C. If BLM, in consultation with the SHPO and GSV, determine that avoidance is not practicable, the BLM shall ensure that the historic property will undergo mitigation (including, but not limited to, the development of a HPTP, archaeological excavation, data recovery, curation of artifacts, complete reporting, etc.) within one year of discovery in accord with Stipulation VI.D below.
- D. If BLM, in consultation with the SHPO, determines that the undertaking has adversely affected a historic property or unevaluated site, then a CRM firm hired by GSV shall prepare an appropriate HPTP. HPTPs will be consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation (48 FR 11716-37) and shall conform to the stipulations outlined in the Nevada State Protocol and BLM manual 8140.26 and following the guidance provided by the ACHP available online at <http://www.achp.gov/archguide/>.
- E. BLM shall ensure that the HPTP will include the original National Register evaluation either as an attachment or within the body of the document.
- F. GSV's CRM shall procure all appropriate BLM permits prior to initiation of any treatment.

10. Renumber Stipulation V "DATA AND INFORMATION SHARING" as Stipulation VII.

11. Renumber Stipulation VI "DISPUTE RESOLUTION" as Stipulation VIII.

12. Amend Stipulation VIII so it reads as follows:

Should any Signatory or Invited Signatory to this MOA object at any time to any actions proposed or the manner in which the terms of this MOA are implemented, the BLM shall consult with such party to resolve the objection. If the BLM determines that such objection cannot be resolved, the BLM will:

- A. Forward all documentation relevant to the dispute, including the BLM's proposed resolution, to the ACHP. The ACHP shall provide the BLM with its advice on the resolution of the objection within thirty (30) days of receiving adequate documentation. Prior to reaching final decision on the dispute, the BLM shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely advice or comments regarding the dispute from the ACHP, the Signatories and the Invited Signatory, and provide them with a copy of this written response. The BLM will then proceed according to its final decision.
- B. If the ACHP does not provide its advice regarding the dispute within the thirty (30) day time period, the BLM may make a final decision on the dispute and proceed accordingly. Prior to reaching such a final decision, the BLM shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely comments regarding the dispute from the SHPO and GSV to the MOA, and provide them and the ACHP with a copy of such written response.
- C. The BLM's responsibility to carry out all other actions subject to the terms of this MOA that are not the subject of the dispute remain unchanged.

13. Add new Appendices A and B.

SIGNATORIES:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

By: Melanie A. Peterson Date: 8/11/17
Melanie A. Peterson
Field Manager
Tuscarora Field Office

NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

By: Rebecca Lynn Palmer Date: 08/11/17
Rebecca Lynn Palmer
State Historic Preservation Officer

INVITED SIGNATORY:

GSV USA LIMITED D/B/A
IN NEVADA AS GOLD STANDARD VENTURES CORPORATION

By: _____ Date: _____
Mac Jackson
Vice President of Exploration

APPENDIX A

Archaeological Sites:

State No.	2011 IMACS NRHP	SHPO Letters NRHP ^{1,2}	2012 MOA NRHP	Amendment 1 NRHP	Adverse Effect?	Description of Effect
26EK3587	Eligible D (2011)	Eligible D ¹	Eligible D	Eligible D	No	
26EK12290	Eligible A	Eligible A ¹	Eligible A	Eligible A	No	
26EK12291	Eligible A and D, <u>or</u> A only (contradicts)	Does not concur, need clarification ¹	Eligible A and D	Eligible A, Unevaluated D	No	
26EK12292	Eligible A	Eligible A ¹	Eligible A	Eligible A	No	
26EK12293	Eligible D	Eligible D ¹	Eligible D	Eligible D	Yes; mining activities, natural decay	New drill pad and sump on site (2014)
26EK12298	Eligible A	Eligible A ¹	Eligible A	Eligible A	No	
26EK12302	Eligible A	Eligible A ¹	Eligible A	Eligible A	No	
26EK12303	Eligible A	Eligible A ¹	Eligible A	Eligible A	No	
26EK12597	Eligible A only, <u>or</u> Eligible D only (contradicts)	Does not concur, need clarification ¹	Eligible A	Unevaluated D	No	
26EK12598	Eligible A	Eligible A ² Unevaluated C, D ²	Unevaluated	Eligible A, Unevaluated C and D	Yes; mining activities	New drill pad and access road in site boundary (2014). New campfire ring, trash, and uprooted trees (2016).
26EK12600	Eligible A	Eligible A ²	Eligible A	Eligible A	Yes; mining activities	New drill road through site, new drill pad, disturbance of waste rock piles (2014)
26EK12601	Not eligible	Does not concur ² Believes Eligible for C and D	Eligible C and D	Not Eligible A and B, Unevaluated C and D	No	

¹ SHPO Letter dated Sept. 07, 2011 (report BLM1-2793 [Main report concurrence])

² SHPO Letter dated Dec. 19, 2011 (report BLM1-2793 (ADD) [Addendum report concurrence])

Architectural Resources:

HRIF Number	2011 HRIF NRHP	SHPO Letter NRHP¹	2012 MOA NRHP	Amendment 1 NRHP
S374	Not eligible	Unevaluated	Not in MOA	Unevaluated
S376	Not eligible	Not Eligible C Unevaluated A,B,D	Not in MOA	Not Eligible C Unevaluated A,B,D
S380	Not eligible	Not Eligible C Unevaluated A,B,D	Not in MOA	Not Eligible C Unevaluated A,B,D
S381	Not eligible	Not Eligible C Unevaluated A,B,D	Not in MOA	Not Eligible C Unevaluated A,B,D
S384	Not eligible	Not Eligible C Unevaluated A,B,D	Not in MOA	Not Eligible C Unevaluated A,B,D
S385	Not eligible	Unevaluated	Not in MOA	Unevaluated
S396	Not eligible	Unevaluated	Not in MOA	Unevaluated
S398	Not eligible	Unevaluated	Not in MOA	Unevaluated
S401	Not eligible	Unevaluated	Not in MOA	Unevaluated

¹SHPO Letter dated Oct. 28, 2011. (report BLM1-2793 [Architecture concurrence])

Appendix B
Historic Properties Treatment Plan