

NEVADA'S MINERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

by

Bill Durbin¹

Abstract. The minerals industry has long been known for quietly doing its work of providing society with the mineral resources and products necessary for every day life. Changing attitudes over the past 20 years have caused the industry to look beyond the "rocks in the box" and focus on educating people about mining and the importance of minerals to all aspects of life. The Nevada Division of Minerals, in partnership with the Nevada Mining Association and its member companies, the Nevada minerals industry at-large, the Nevada Department of Education, and the University of Nevada system, is entering its 15th year of providing Nevada's students and the general public with information on Nevada's mineral resource industry. The Nevada program's major focal points are the twice yearly minerals education workshop for teachers. Nearly 3,000 teachers have passed through the workshops, to date. The partnership has actively developed a wide variety of minerals education and earth science curriculum for all grade levels, including the "Project Mine" video series. The Nevada program extends beyond the classroom, as well, through presentations and displays at fairs, expos, home, hobby, and sports shows, media campaigns, and now, through the Internet. This presentation will give a brief overview of each aspect of the Nevada minerals education program.

¹Bill Durbin, Nevada Division of Minerals, 400 West King Street, Suite 106, Carson City, NV 80703-4212.