Overview of metallic mining permitting process: Department review

The WDNR and its consultants review the submitted materials and provide feedback to the applicant necessitating project redesign and/or submission of additional information.

The WDNR prepares and releases a *Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)* for public review and comment.

A public meeting is held, within 30 to 60 days of the *DEIS* release, in order to receive comments.

The WDNR then revises and publishes a *Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)*

Within 6 months after the *FEIS* is published, a Master Hearing is held on all permits/approvals issued by the WDNR and the adequacy of the EIS.

Master Hearing consists of two parts:
open comments and contested-case.

Testimony by expert witnesses is under oath and evidence is presented and witnesses are cross-examined.

Within 90 days following closure of the hearing record, the decision-maker (administrative law judge or WDNR Secretary) determines whether the project would comply with all relevant criteria and issues or denies the necessary permits.

Within 90 days of the completion of the public hearing record the WDNR will either grant or deny issuance of a metallic mining permit.

The final decisions on permits are then open to appeal through administrative and judicial processes.