U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION Washington

15 DAYS FOR OBJECTIONS TO GOLD-MINING DETERMINATION

Objections to the application of the 40 hour week in placer gold mining by power machinery will be considered if filed within fifteen days, Baird Snyder, Acting Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, announced today.

All open-cut placer gold mining in the states of Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming was declared "seasonal" by the Administrator on June 3, 1940. As a season industry, the time-and-a-half rule after a 40 hour week did not apply for fourteen weeks a year. Instead, overtime payments did not need begin until after twelve hours a day or 56 hours a week.

On the objection of several interested unions that mining with power machinery continues throughout the year, the matter was reopened and after a hearing in Butte, Montana, May 21, 1941, the exemption was denied to operators in open-out mining of placer gold by power machinery in the afore-mentioned states. Petitions for review of this denial will be entertained if filed with the Administrator's office in Washington within fifteen days.

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