



Gila Resources Information Project

Promoting Healthy Communities by Protecting Our Environment Since 1998

February 18, 2015

Mr. Holland Shepherd,
Mining Act Reclamation Program (MARP)
Mining and Minerals Division/EMNRD
1220 South St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Re: Request for Public Hearing – Continental Mine Return to Operation - GR002RE

Dear Mr. Shepherd:

On behalf of the Gila Resources Information Project, I would like to request a public hearing on the Continental Mine request to return to operation.

We are very concerned about the potential environmental and public health impacts of resuming mining operations at the Continental Mine. The public health and quality of life of those living in Fierro and Hanover in proximity to the Continental mine and Cobre haul road will be impacted for at least ten years from traffic, noise, dust, vibration, and lights on a 24/7 basis. Freeport-McMoRan proposes to completely remove Hanover Mountain from the landscape. There are significant community concerns and interest in renewed operations at the mine, as well as how the site will be reclaimed after Hanover Mountain ore has been hauled to Chino for processing.

We thank you for consideration of our request for a public hearing.

Sincerely,

Allyson Siwik
Executive Director

Cc: James Hollen, MMD/MARP