

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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Deputy Cabinet Secretary

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Mining and Minerals Division



October 5, 2017

Ms. Katie Emmer
New Mexico Copper Corporation
4253 Montgomery Blvd NE, Suite 130
Albuquerque, NM 87109

RE: Preliminary Comments on Updated Mining Operation and Reclamation Plan, Revision 1, July 2017; Copper Flat Mine, Sierra County, Permit Tracking No. SI027RN

The Mining and Minerals Division ("MMD") is reviewing the *Updated Mining Operation and Reclamation Plan, Revision 1 July 2017* ("Updated MORP, R1") and *New Mexico Copper Corporation's ("NMCC") Response to NM MMD's April 21st, 2017 Technical Comments* letter. These documents were submitted as part of the overall Permit Application Package for the Copper Flat Mine. MMD reserves the right to provide NMCC with additional comments on these and other documents submitted to date. However, at this time, MMD requires the following:

1. Additional information supporting the statement that the pit walls, post reclamation, will be suitable for achieving a self-sustaining ecosystem appropriate for the life zone of the surrounding area or proposed post-mining land use of steep-canyon wildlife habitat.
2. A reclamation/revegetation plan for accessible portions of the dry open pit surface that do not rely exclusively on self-vegetation.
3. Additional information required by Section 19.10.6.602 (D)(13)(g)(v) NMAC and Section 19.10.6.603.C(4) NMAC.

Please submit this required information within 30-days. If you have any questions or wish to discuss any of these comments, please contact me at (505) 476-3434 or by email at david.ennis@state.nm.us.

Sincerely,

David J. ("DJ") Ennis, P.G.
Reclamation Specialist/Permit Lead

cc: Holland Shepherd, Mining Act Program Manager
Brad Reid, NMED Permit Lead