

**From:** [Kellermueller, Ronald, DGF](#)  
**To:** [Chisler, Clinton, EMNRD](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application Amendment Notification: Permit HI018EM. NMDGF Project No. 18073  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 12, 2018 3:54:19 PM

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Clint,

After reviewing the new supplemental information for the above referenced project, the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish has no further comments other than the ones we had previously submitted for the exploration project. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Yours Truly, Ron

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**From:** Chisler, Clinton, EMNRD  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 05, 2018 3:44 PM  
**To:** Roth, Daniela, EMNRD; Kellermueller, Ronald, DGF; Musharrafieh, Ghassan R., OSE; Hutchinson, William S, NMDOT; Botkin, Trent, NMDOT; Estes, Bob, DCA; Lewellin, Jeffrey, NMENV  
**Cc:** Shepherd, Holland, EMNRD; jnavarro@blm.gov; Keeven, Leighandra  
**Subject:** Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application Amendment Notification: Permit HI018EM

Agencies,

MMD has received supplemental information from the Operator, Frank Bain (previously Lordsburg Resources) regarding the Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application HI018EM. Two changes have been made. Frank Bain is replacing Lordsburg Resources on the application (attached) as the Operator and 1 new drill hole is being proposed. This is the hole on Claim Block 26 in Section 18 of the attached map. This new drill hole is adjacent to the old Saltwater Well we visited while on the site visit last year. Because this is new information MMD will be giving the agencies another 20 day response period. The new deadline for response is 25 September 2018. If there are no changes to your original response an email back letting me know will be suffice. Thanks again and please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Clint

CLINTON M. CHISLER  
RECLAMATION SOIL SCIENTIST  
MINING AND MINERALS DIVISION  
MINING ACT RECLAMATION PROGRAM  
WENDELL CHINO BUILDING 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR ROOM 363  
1220 S. ST. FRANCIS DRIVE  
SANTA FE, NM 87505  
(505) 476-3413  
[CLINTON.CHISLER@STATE.NM.US](mailto:CLINTON.CHISLER@STATE.NM.US)

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**From:** Chisler, Clinton, EMNRD  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 29, 2017 10:37 AM  
**To:** Vollbrecht, Kurt, NMENV <kurt.vollbrecht@state.nm.us>; Jankowitz, Rachel, NMENV <rachel.jankowitz@state.nm.us>; Ensey, Michelle, DCA <michelle.ensity@state.nm.us>; Johnson, Michael, NMENV <Michael.Johnson@state.nm.us>; Roth, Daniela, EMNRD

<Daniela.Roth@state.nm.us>; Kellermueller, Ronald, DGF <Ronald.Kellermueller@state.nm.us>; Musharrafieh, Ghassan R., OSE <ghassan.musharrafieh@state.nm.us>; Hutchinson, William S, NMDOT <WilliamS.Hutchinson@state.nm.us>; Botkin, Trent, NMDOT <Trent.Botkin@state.nm.us>; Estes, Bob, DCA <Bob.Estes@state.nm.us>

**Cc:** Shepherd, Holland, EMNRD <holland.shepherd@state.nm.us>; 'jnavarro@blm.gov' <jnavarro@blm.gov>; 'Keeven, Leighandra' <lkeeven@blm.gov>; Hollen, James, EMNRD <james.hollen@state.nm.us>

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Agencies,

MMD has received supplemental information from the Operator, Lordsburg Resources, regarding the Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application HI018EM. I have attached the original application documents for your reference and also the documents that hold the amendment information (Amendment Letter to MMD, Updated POO for the BLM, and the new map). Because this is new information MMD will be giving the agencies another 20 day response period. The new deadline for response is 19 December 2017. If there are no changes to your original response an email back letting me know will suffice. Thanks again and please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Clint

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**From:** Chisler, Clinton, EMNRD

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2017 10:51 AM

**To:** Vollbrecht, Kurt, NMENV <[kurt.vollbrecht@state.nm.us](mailto:kurt.vollbrecht@state.nm.us)>; Jankowitz, Rachel, NMENV <[rachel.jankowitz@state.nm.us](mailto:rachel.jankowitz@state.nm.us)>; Ensey, Michelle, DCA <[michelle.ensey@state.nm.us](mailto:michelle.ensey@state.nm.us)>; Johnson, Michael, NMENV <[Michael.Johnson@state.nm.us](mailto:Michael.Johnson@state.nm.us)>; Roth, Daniela, EMNRD <[Daniela.Roth@state.nm.us](mailto:Daniela.Roth@state.nm.us)>; Kellermueller, Ronald, DGF <[Ronald.Kellermueller@state.nm.us](mailto:Ronald.Kellermueller@state.nm.us)>; Musharrafieh, Ghassan R., OSE <[ghassan.musharrafieh@state.nm.us](mailto:ghassan.musharrafieh@state.nm.us)>

**Cc:** Shepherd, Holland, EMNRD <[holland.shepherd@state.nm.us](mailto:holland.shepherd@state.nm.us)>; [jnavarro@blm.gov](mailto:jnavarro@blm.gov)

**Subject:** Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application Notification

**Agency Contacts:**

MMD has received an application requesting a new Minimal Impact Exploration Permit in Hidalgo County, located on BLM owned Surface and Mineral estates. The permit application area is approximately 13 miles west southwest of Lordsburg (north of I-10) in

the Lordsburg Playa. MMD has assigned the Application as Permit No. HI018EM, and the project has been identified by the Applicant as the "Lordsburg Playa Lithium Exploration" Project.

The Application has not yet been posted to MMD's Website; however, I have attached an electronic copy of the Application and Map for preview (see attached).

This email was not sent as formal solicitation to your agency for review and comment, but as a courtesy and notification of the inspection date for the project. The Permit Application will be formally submitted to your agency at a later date and that submittal will include a formal request for review and comment with a 20 day review period.

**At this time the inspection date is set for the morning of October 19, 2017**

If you or a representative from your agency wishes to attend the inspection of the proposed exploration project area, please respond to this email and I will further coordinate the inspection and establish a specific meeting place and time with the Applicant and any agency representatives who are interested in attending.

Thank you for your time and effort in assisting with coordination of this inspection, I look forward to your response.

Clint

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[CLINTON.CHISLER@STATE.NM.US](mailto:CLINTON.CHISLER@STATE.NM.US)

**From:** [Lewellin, Jeffrey, NMENV](#)  
**To:** [Chisler, Clinton, EMNRD](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application Amendment Notification: Permit HI018EM  
**Date:** Thursday, September 13, 2018 1:34:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [Drill Map.pdf](#)  
[Part3\\_ExplorationApplication\\_Form\\_03-02-2012.docx](#)  
[2017\\_12\\_18 NMED MMD Lordsburg Playa Exp Prjct Combined Comments.pdf](#)

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Clint – NMED has no further comments related to this minimal impact exploration project. Thanks, Jeff

Jeff Lewellin, Mining Act Team Leader  
Mining Environmental Compliance Section  
Ground Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
(505) 827-1049

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**From:** Lewellin, Jeffrey, NMENV  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 05, 2018 3:55 PM  
**To:** Moeny, John, NMENV <[John.Moeny@state.nm.us](mailto:John.Moeny@state.nm.us)>; Butt, Neal, NMENV <[Neal.Butt@state.nm.us](mailto:Neal.Butt@state.nm.us)>; Llewellyn, George, NMENV <[george.llewellyn@state.nm.us](mailto:george.llewellyn@state.nm.us)>  
**Cc:** Vollbrecht, Kurt, NMENV <[kurt.vollbrecht@state.nm.us](mailto:kurt.vollbrecht@state.nm.us)>  
**Subject:** FW: Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application Amendment Notification: Permit HI018EM

George, John, and Neal – I attached our original comments for the above referenced exploration project. MECS will have no additional comments based on the changes listed below which is a change in name of the operator and one additional boring. Please respond by e-mail if you have additional comments or not. See the information below from Clint. Thanks, Jeff

Jeff Lewellin, Mining Act Team Leader  
Mining Environmental Compliance Section  
Ground Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
(505) 827-1049

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**Cc:** Shepherd, Holland, EMNRD <[holland.shepherd@state.nm.us](mailto:holland.shepherd@state.nm.us)>; [jnavarro@blm.gov](mailto:jnavarro@blm.gov); Keeven, Leighandra <[lkeeven@blm.gov](mailto:lkeeven@blm.gov)>  
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SANTA FE, NM 87505  
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[CLINTON.CHISLER@STATE.NM.US](mailto:CLINTON.CHISLER@STATE.NM.US)



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
**DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS**  
**HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION**

BATAAN MEMORIAL BUILDING  
407 GALISTEO STREET, SUITE 236  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501  
PHONE (505) 827-6320 FAX (505) 827-6338

September 19, 2018

Clint Chisler  
Permit Lead  
Mining Act Reclamation Program  
Mining and Minerals Division  
1220 South St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Re: Amendment to Application for Minimal Impact Exploration Permit, Lordsburg Playa  
Lithium project, Hidalgo County, New Mexico, HI018EM

Dear Mr. Chisler:

This letter is in response to the above referenced new minimal impact exploration permit application received at the Historic Preservation Division (HPD) on September 5, 2018 (HPD log 108617). According to the application, the proposed project is within Township 23 South, Range 20 West, in portions of Sections 7, 8, 9, 17, and 20.

In accordance with rule 19.10.3 NMAC, *Minimal Impact Operations*, I reviewed our records to determine if cemeteries, burial grounds or cultural resources listed on the State Register of Cultural Properties or the National Register of Historic Places exist within or near the permit area. Our records show that there are no cultural resources listed on the National Register or State Register within or near the proposed permit area and no known cemeteries or burial grounds.

The application states that the surface and mineral estate is owned by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Our records suggest that the BLM recently surveyed the area of potential effects for cultural resources (NMCRIS 140970). The BLM will review the results of the survey report, consider project effects on any archaeological sites that may be eligible for listing on the National Register pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and consult with the SHPO for the undertaking. To the best of my knowledge, the BLM has not consulted with the SHPO for this undertaking.

The BLM may require avoidance of any eligible archaeological sites and an archaeological monitor to ensure that eligible sites are not affected.



Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding these comments. I can be reached by telephone at (505) 827-4225 or by email at [bob.estes@state.nm.us](mailto:bob.estes@state.nm.us) .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Estes".

Bob Estes PH.D.  
Archaeologist

Log: 108617