

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

**Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
Governor

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Cabinet Secretary

**Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD**  
Deputy Secretary

**Mike Tompson**, Interim Director  
Mining and Minerals Division



February 4, 2020

Meghan Chesal  
BHP Mineral Resources, Inc.  
180 W. Magee Road, Ste. 134  
Tucson, Arizona 85704

**RE: Technically Approvable Minimal Impact Exploration Application, BHP Oak Grove Exploration Drilling, Permit No. GR084EM, BHP Mineral Resources, Inc.**

Dear Ms. Chesal:

On November 5, 2019, the New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division ("MMD") received an application from BHP Mineral Resources, Inc. (BHP) for a minimal impact exploration operation. The application proposed to drill one (1) drill hole up to 5,000 ft. deep to explore for copper in Grant County, New Mexico. The application was assigned Permit No. GR084EM. MMD reviewed the application and requested additional information in order to make the application complete. MMD received additional information from BHP, dated January 31, 2020.

MMD has reviewed the application and supporting information and has determined the application to be technically approvable. Please submit a financial assurance proposal pursuant to 19.10.3.302.I.(5) and 19.10.12.1208 NMAC for \$91,237.74.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 476-3436 or [jennifere.johnson@state.nm.us](mailto:jennifere.johnson@state.nm.us).

Sincerely,

Jennifer Johnson, Permit Lead  
Mining Act Reclamation Program ("MARF")  
Mining and Minerals Division

cc: Holland Shepherd, MARP Program Manager  
Amanda Best, Senior Environmental Specialist  
Mine File (GR084EM)