

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst
Cabinet Secretary

Todd Leahy, JD, Ph.D.
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Mike Tompson, Interim Director
Mining and Minerals Division



February 4, 2020

Chairman Timothy Nuvangyaoma
Hopi Tribe
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue a Minimal Impact Exploration Permit, BHP Oak Grove Exploration Drilling, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR084EM

Dear Chairman Nuvangyaoma,

On November 5, 2019 the Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department notified your tribe about an application from BHP Mineral Resources Inc. to conduct a minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project is located in Grant County and will involve 1 borehole with a maximum depth of 5,000 feet on Bureau of Land Management property and a new road on Private Property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 3.5 acres associated with the exploration activities.

Minimal Impact exploration means disturbance will not exceed a total of 5 acres and limits impact to the environment. Operations must be completed in one year and reclaimed within two years, unless the permit is renewed. A new application for renewal would be required to extend exploration or reclamation beyond one year or to initiate further mining activities. The application can be viewed in its entirety by visiting the MMD web site at <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/MMD/MARP/GR084EM.html>.

We are notifying you that the applicant has satisfied all our regulatory requirements and we are prepared to issue a permit. We would like to give you a final opportunity to provide us with comments. Please provide comments to MMD by February 24, 2020. Please contact me at (505) 476-3427, or Jenn Johnson of my staff at 505-476-3436 or jennifere.johnson@state.nm.us with any questions or if you wish to meet to discuss the application.

Sincerely,

Mike Tompson, Interim Director
Mining and Minerals Division

Enclosure (Site Locations Map)

cc: Holland Shepherd, MARP Program Manager
Mine File (GR084EM)

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February 4, 2020

President Arthur "Butch" Blazer
Mescalero Apache Tribe
P.O. Box 227
Mescalero, NM 88340

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue a Minimal Impact Exploration Permit, BHP Oak Grove Exploration Drilling, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR084EM

Dear President Blazer,

On November 5, 2019 the Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department notified your tribe about an application from BHP Mineral Resources Inc. to conduct a minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project is located in Grant County and will involve 1 borehole with a maximum depth of 5,000 feet on Bureau of Land Management property and a new road on Private Property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 3.5 acres associated with the exploration activities.

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February 4, 2020

Governor Max Zuni
Pueblo of Isleta
P.O. Box 1270
Isleta Pueblo, NM 87022

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue a Minimal Impact Exploration Permit, BHP Oak Grove Exploration Drilling, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR084EM

Dear Governor Zuni,

On November 5, 2019 the Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department notified your tribe about an application from BHP Mineral Resources Inc. to conduct a minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project is located in Grant County and will involve 1 borehole with a maximum depth of 5,000 feet on Bureau of Land Management property and a new road on Private Property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 3.5 acres associated with the exploration activities.

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February 4, 2020

Governor Brian Vallo
Pueblo of Acoma
P.O. Box 309
Acoma, NM 87034

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue a Minimal Impact Exploration Permit, BHP Oak Grove Exploration Drilling, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR084EM

Dear Governor Vallo,

On November 5, 2019 the Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department notified your tribe about an application from BHP Mineral Resources Inc. to conduct a minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project is located in Grant County and will involve 1 borehole with a maximum depth of 5,000 feet on Bureau of Land Management property and a new road on Private Property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 3.5 acres associated with the exploration activities.

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February 4, 2020

Chairwoman Gwendena Lee-Gatewood
White Mountain Apache Tribe
P.O. Box 700
Whiteriver, AZ 85941

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue a Minimal Impact Exploration Permit, BHP Oak Grove Exploration Drilling, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR084EM

Dear Chairwoman Lee-Gatewood,

On November 5, 2019 the Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department notified your tribe about an application from BHP Mineral Resources Inc. to conduct a minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project is located in Grant County and will involve 1 borehole with a maximum depth of 5,000 feet on Bureau of Land Management property and a new road on Private Property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 3.5 acres associated with the exploration activities.

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February 4, 2020

Chairwoman Lori Gooday-Ware
Fort Sill Apache Tribe
Route 2, Box 121
Apache, OK 73006

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue a Minimal Impact Exploration Permit, BHP Oak Grove Exploration Drilling, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR084EM

Dear Chairwoman Gooday-Ware,

On November 5, 2019 the Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department notified your tribe about an application from BHP Mineral Resources Inc. to conduct a minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project is located in Grant County and will involve 1 borehole with a maximum depth of 5,000 feet on Bureau of Land Management property and a new road on Private Property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 3.5 acres associated with the exploration activities.

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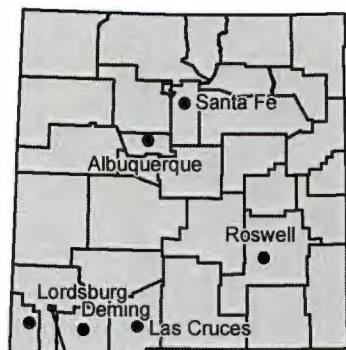
Sincerely,

Mike Tompson, Interim Director
Mining and Minerals Division

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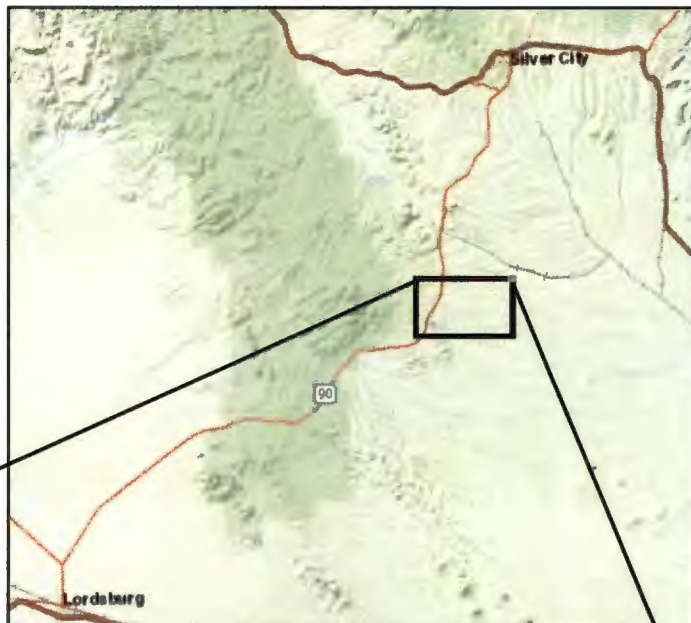
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NEW MEXICO



PROJECT LOCATION

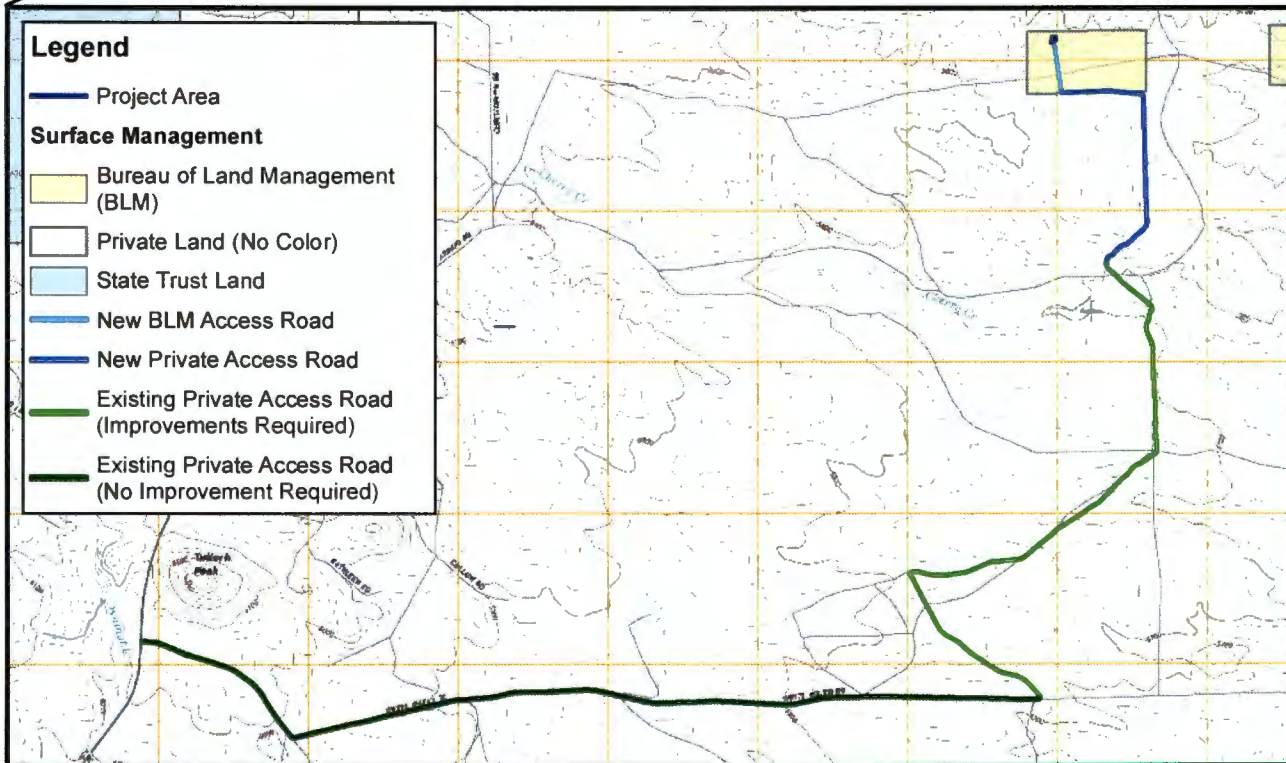
PROJECT VICINITY



Approximate Scale 1 Inch = 10 Miles

Legend

- Project Area
- Surface Management**
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Private Land (No Color)
- State Trust Land
- New BLM Access Road
- New Private Access Road
- Existing Private Access Road (Improvements Required)
- Existing Private Access Road (No Improvement Required)

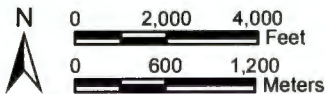


T20S, R14W, Portions of Sections 4, 9, 10, 15-18 and 21,
 T20S, R15W, Portions of Sections 13, 14 and 24,
 Grant County, New Mexico
 White Signal USGS 7.5' Quadrangle
 Data Source: BHP
 Surface Management: BLM 2014
 Image Source: ArcGIS Online, World Street Map

BHP MINERAL RESOURCES INC.
 BLM Notice for Oak Grove Exploration Drilling
 Grant County, New Mexico



WestLand Resources



VICINITY MAP
Figure 1