Michelle Lujan Grisham Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

**Todd Leahy, JD, Ph.D.** Deputy Cabinet Secretary Jerry Schoeppner, Director Mining and Minerals Division



Electronic Transmission March 8, 2021

Joe Kizis Southern Silver Exploration Corp. (U.S.) 4790 Caughlin Pkway, #207 Reno, NV 89519-0907

## **RE:** Application Administratively Complete, Turquoise Mountain Project, New Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear Mr. Kizis,

Pursuant to §19.10.3.302 NMAC, the New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division ("MMD") has determined that a Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application ("application") submitted on March 5, 2021 is administratively complete. The application was submitted by Southern Silver Exploration Corp. (U.S.). ("Southern Silver"), for its Turquoise Mountain Project and proposes to disturb a total of 1.65 acres of combined Bureau of Land Management (6 holes) and State Land Office (2 holes) within the boundaries of the claim numbers identified in the application for exploration located approximately 6.5 miles west of Hachita, NM in Grant County New Mexico. Because Southern Silver has agreed not to exceed 5 acres of total disturbance at all times, MMD is processing this application as a minimal impact exploration permit pursuant to §19.10.3.302 (A) NMAC.

MMD is hereby notifying you that it has determined that the proposed Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application for the Turquoise Mountain Project, Permit Tracking No. GR087EM is administratively complete. MMD will distribute the application to other reviewing state, federal, and tribal agencies to begin technically reviewing the application pursuant to 19.10.3.302.G NMAC. If you have any questions, please contact me at 505-470-5354 or via e-mail at: jennifere.johnson@state.nm.us.

Sincerely,

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Jenn Johnson, Permit Lead Mining Act Reclamation Program ("MARP")

cc: Holland Shepherd, Program Manager, MARP Elliott Crist Mine File (GR087EM)