

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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**Michele Lujan Grisham**  
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Cabinet Secretary

**Todd Leahy, JD, PhD**  
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

**Jerry Schoeppner, Director**  
Mining and Minerals Division



ELECTRONIC TRANSMITTAL

April 27, 2020

Sandra Carson, Environmental Supervisor  
Elko Mining Group LLC  
8275 North Mineral Park Road  
Golden Valley, AZ 86413

**RE:      Comments on; *Banner Mine and Mill Site Renewal Application for Standby Status Permit Revision 20-1; Permit Number HI001RE, dated March 13, 2020***

Dear Ms. Carson:

The New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) received *Banner Mine and Mill Site Renewal Application for Standby Status Permit Revision 20-1; Permit Number HI001RE* (“draft application”) for review on March 13, 2013. Thank you for your patience with our review of this document. Below are MMD’s comments on this submittal per §19.10.7.701 NMAC.

1. The content of draft application per §19.10.7.701 (B) NMAC is in an acceptable format.
2. Please provide drafts of the public participation notices per §19.10.7.701 (C) NMAC for MMD’s review within 30 days of receipt of this letter.
3. Per §19.10.7.701 (G) NMAC, MMD will require an updated Closeout Plan with associated Financial Assurance (“FA”) prior to approving Standby Status for the Lordsburg Banner Mill; Permit No. HI001RE. In order to incorporate these items into the Revision 20-1 Application, please submit an updated Closeout Plan with the final Revision 20-1 Application within 90 days of receipt of this letter. After the Revision 20-1 Application is deemed Administratively Complete and the scope of work in the Closeout Plan is accepted by state agencies Pyramid Peak Mining, LLC shall submit a FA proposal no later than 30 days from that date.
4. According to MMD’s Mine Registration and Reporting Program, The Banner Mine and Mill Site last reported production in 2013. This will require that the Banner Mill Standby Status Permit Application Rev. 20-1 reflect a start date of 2014 for the 20-year Standby Status limitation Per §19.10.7.701 (A) and (I) NMAC.

MMD is available to discuss this letter at your convenience. Please contact Clint Chisler, Permit Lead at (505) 467-9589 or by email at [clinton.chisler@state.nm.us](mailto:clinton.chisler@state.nm.us) if you would like to discuss further or to schedule a meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Clint Chisler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C".

Clint Chisler, Permit Lead  
Mining Act Reclamation Program/MMD

Permit No. HI001RE