

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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**Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
Governor

**Sarah Cottrell Propst**  
Cabinet Secretary

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

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



May 4, 2020

Mr. Rick Reycraft  
Department of Cultural Affairs, Historic Preservation Division  
407 Galisteo St., Suite 236  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

**Re: Request for Agency Comments, Modification 20-1, Billali Mine, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. MK058MN**

Dear Mr. Reycraft,

On April 28, 2020, the Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department received a request to modify permit number GR058MN for the Billali Mine located in Grant County, New Mexico. Pursuant to §19.10.3.304.H NMAC, MMD is requesting comments from your agency regarding the request to modify permit number MK058MN.

The request for modification 20-1 to permit MK058MN is for the dewatering of the Billali Mine and discharge/disposal of groundwater from the Billali Mine decline. Specifically, modification 20-1 is for:

- Excavation/construction of a water retention pond within soil located on private property identified as the Earven Ranch located approximately 2 miles west of the Billali Mine. The dimensions of the proposed retention pond are not specified by the operator but is expected to be a sufficient volume to allow for infiltration of 100 gallons/minute of water for initial dewatering. For purposes of this modification, MMD is anticipating a pond approximately 1 acre in aerial extent;
- Placement of a 2-3” nominal diameter pipeline along the Bitter Creek Road right-of-way. Bitter Creek Road is a dirt road that is periodically graded by Grant County. The pipeline is anticipated to be a mostly located on the surface right-of-way with occasional shallow burial where necessary to allow vehicular traffic over the pipeline where necessary;

A map of the proposed water retention pond location and approximate pipeline route is attached.

In accordance with §19.10.3.304.H NMAC, your agency has 20 days from the date of receipt of this letter in which to provide comments. If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 372-8634 or by email at [david.ennis@state.nm.us](mailto:david.ennis@state.nm.us).

Sincerely,

David J. (DJ) Ennis, P.G., Permit Lead  
Mining Act Reclamation Program (MARP)

cc: Mine File (MK058MN)

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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May 4, 2020

Dr. Matthew Wunder  
NM Department of Game and Fish  
P.O. Box 25112  
Santa Fe, NM 87504

**Re: Request for Agency Comments, Modification 20-1, Billali Mine, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. MK058MN**

Dear Dr. Wunder,

On April 28, 2020, the Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department received a request to modify permit number GR058MN for the Billali Mine located in Grant County, New Mexico. Pursuant to §19.10.3.304.H NMAC, MMD is requesting comments from your agency regarding the request to modify permit number MK058MN.

The request for modification 20-1 to permit MK058MN is for the dewatering of the Billali Mine and discharge/disposal of groundwater from the Billali Mine decline. Specifically, modification 20-1 is for:

- Excavation/construction of a water retention pond within soil located on private property identified as the Earven Ranch located approximately 2 miles west of the Billali Mine. The dimensions of the proposed retention pond are not specified by the operator but is expected to be a sufficient volume to allow for infiltration of 100 gallons/minute of water for initial dewatering. For purposes of this modification, MMD is anticipating a pond approximately 1 acre in aerial extent;
- Placement of a 2-3” nominal diameter pipeline along the Bitter Creek Road right-of-way. Bitter Creek Road is a dirt road that is periodically graded by Grant County. The pipeline is anticipated to be a mostly located on the surface right-of-way with occasional shallow burial where necessary to allow vehicular traffic over the pipeline where necessary;

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Sincerely,

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Mining and Minerals Division



May 4, 2020

Ms. Anne Maurer  
NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau  
P.O. Box 5469  
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469

**Re: Request for Agency Comments, Modification 20-1, Billali Mine, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. MK058MN**

Dear Ms. Maurer,

On April 28, 2020, the Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department received a request to modify permit number GR058MN for the Billali Mine located in Grant County, New Mexico. Pursuant to §19.10.3.304.H NMAC, MMD is requesting comments from your agency regarding the request to modify permit number MK058MN.

The request for modification 20-1 to permit MK058MN is for the dewatering of the Billali Mine and discharge/disposal of groundwater from the Billali Mine decline. Specifically, modification 20-1 is for:

- Excavation/construction of a water retention pond within soil located on private property identified as the Earven Ranch located approximately 2 miles west of the Billali Mine. The dimensions of the proposed retention pond are not specified by the operator but is expected to be a sufficient volume to allow for infiltration of 100 gallons/minute of water for initial dewatering. For purposes of this modification, MMD is anticipating a pond approximately 1 acre in aerial extent;
- Placement of a 2-3” nominal diameter pipeline along the Bitter Creek Road right-of-way. Bitter Creek Road is a dirt road that is periodically graded by Grant County. The pipeline is anticipated to be a mostly located on the surface right-of-way with occasional shallow burial where necessary to allow vehicular traffic over the pipeline where necessary;

A map of the proposed water retention pond location and approximate pipeline route is attached.

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Sincerely,

David J. (DJ) Ennis, P.G., Permit Lead  
Mining Act Reclamation Program (MARP)

cc: Mine File (MK058MN)

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Deputy Cabinet Secretary

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



May 4, 2020

Dr. Ghassan Musharrafiieh  
Office of the State Engineer  
P.O. Box 25102  
Santa Fe, NM 87504-5102

**Re: Request for Agency Comments, Modification 20-1, Billali Mine, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. MK058MN**

Dear Dr. Musharrafiieh,

On April 28, 2020, the Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department received a request to modify permit number GR058MN for the Billali Mine located in Grant County, New Mexico. Pursuant to §19.10.3.304.H NMAC, MMD is requesting comments from your agency regarding the request to modify permit number MK058MN.

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- Excavation/construction of a water retention pond within soil located on private property identified as the Earven Ranch located approximately 2 miles west of the Billali Mine. The dimensions of the proposed retention pond are not specified by the operator but is expected to be a sufficient volume to allow for infiltration of 100 gallons/minute of water for initial dewatering. For purposes of this modification, MMD is anticipating a pond approximately 1 acre in aerial extent;
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Sincerely,

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Mining and Minerals Division



May 4, 2020

Ms. Daniela Roth  
EMNRD-Forestry Division  
1220 S. St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

**Re: Request for Agency Comments, Modification 20-1, Billali Mine, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. MK058MN**

Dear Ms. Roth,

On April 28, 2020, the Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department received a request to modify permit number GR058MN for the Billali Mine located in Grant County, New Mexico. Pursuant to §19.10.3.304.H NMAC, MMD is requesting comments from your agency regarding the request to modify permit number MK058MN.

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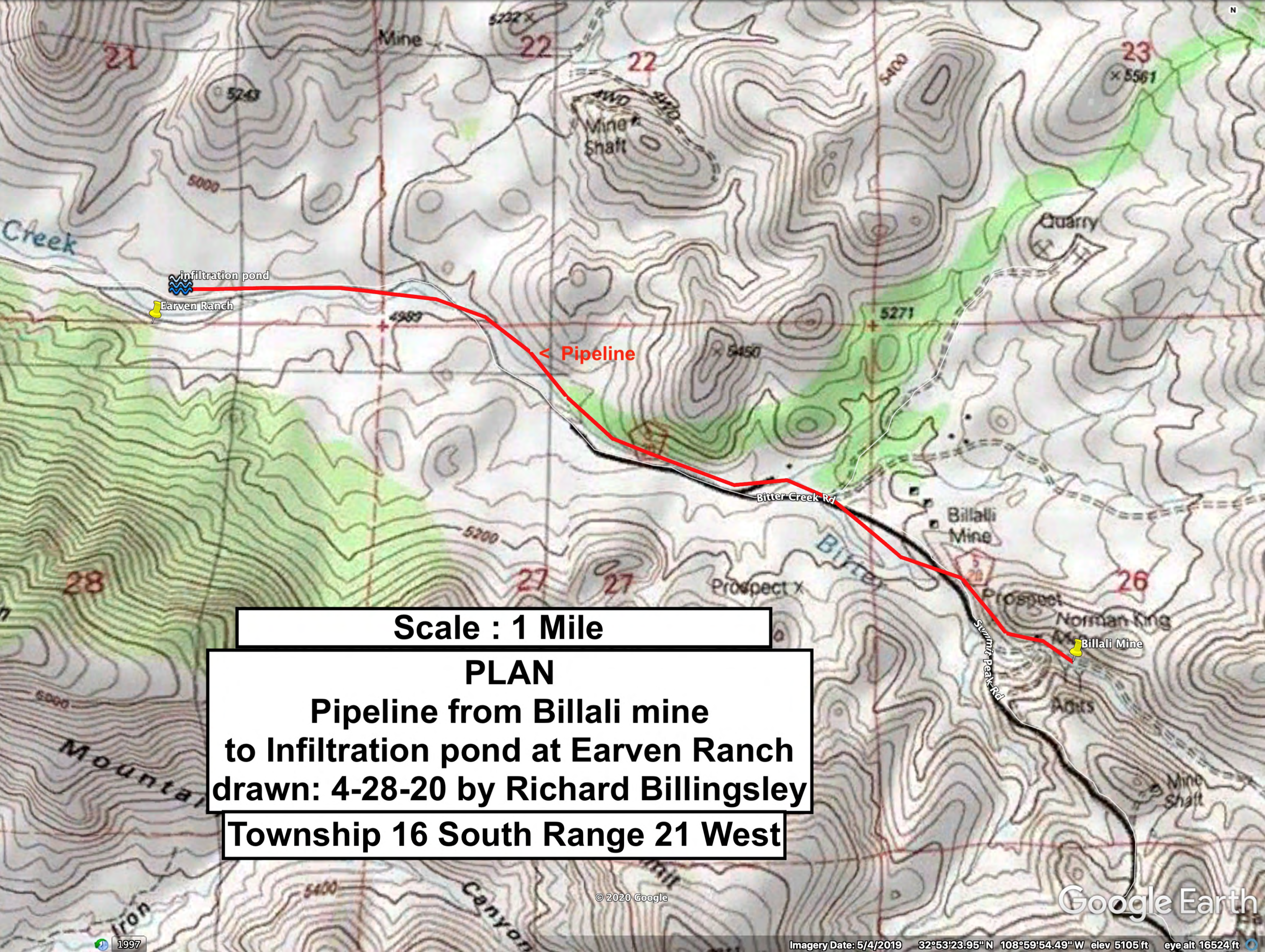
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Sincerely,

David J. (DJ) Ennis, P.G., Permit Lead  
Mining Act Reclamation Program (MARP)

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**Scale : 1 Mile**

**PLAN**  
**Pipeline from Billali mine**  
**to Infiltration pond at Earven Ranch**  
**drawn: 4-28-20 by Richard Billingsley**

**Township 16 South Range 21 West**