

THE ESPANOLA MERCANTILE COMPANY

Established in 1905

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ASSOCIATED ASPHALT AND MATERIALS, LLC
ESPANOLA MERC. REAL ESTATE, LLC
ESPANOLA TRANSIT MIX, LLC
EMCO OF SANTA FE, LLC
LOS ALAMOS TRANSIT MIX, LLC
REAL TRUCKING AND TRANSPORT, LLC

July 12, 2021

Carmen Rose
Sr. Reclamation Specialist
Mining and Minerals Division
Mining Act Reclamation Program
1220 S. St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505

RE: South Pit Minimal Impact Operation Permit No. SA004MN – Application for Permit Modification

Dear Ms. Rose:

The Espanola Mercantile Company (TEMC) respectfully requests a modification of the New Mexico Mining and Minerals Divisions (MMD) Permit No. SA004MN. The \$250 modification application fee, pursuant to Section 19.10.2.201.H NMAC, is attached to this modification request.

The proposed modification consists of a change to the text on page 2 of the October 22, 2007 Reclamation Plan that currently reads "A minimum of 50% ground cover (live vegetation) is required for release of the vegetation portion of the reclamation bond" to the proposed language "A minimum of 50% ground cover (live vegetation and litter) is required for release of the vegetation portion of the reclamation bond." TEMC's original intent at the time of the 2007 Reclamation Plan was to include litter in the ground cover requirement as it was included in the Closeout Plan for the nearby El Cajete Mine (Permit No. SA001RE). TEMC requests the modification to address this clerical error.

A well developed perennial vegetation community has become established at the reclaimed South Pit Mine and includes a mix of forb, grass, shrub and tree species. The vegetative cover has been adequate to contribute to the stabilization of the reclaimed slopes as there has been little to no observed erosion during the annual site inspections with United States Forest Service and New Mexico Mining and MMD representatives. Therefore, pursuant to Section 19.10.6.608.D.1(c) NMAC, the proposed modification does not represent a significant change from the nature or scale of the approved closeout plan.

Further:

- Pursuant to Section 19.10.6.608.D.1(a) NMAC, the proposed modification does not involve an expansion of the design limits beyond that currently authorized by the permit.
- Pursuant to Section 19.10.6.08.D.1(b) NMAC, the proposed modification will not result in a significant increase to the amount of financial assurance approved for this permit.

South Pit Minimal Impact Operation Permit No. SA004MN – Permit Modification Request

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Matt Lane, Environmental Specialist at mlane@espmerc.com or (505) 490-0887.

Best Regards,



Katharine Fishman

President

The Española Mercantile Company