

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

Jerry Schoeppner, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



March 17, 2021

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

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear Chairman Nuvangyaoma,

The Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department has received an application from Southern Silver Corp. (U.S.) (“Permittee”) to conduct minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project will involve 6 boreholes on Bureau of Land Management property and 2 boreholes on New Mexico State Land Office property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 1.65 acres associated with the exploration activities. The Turquoise Mountain Project is located in Sections 35 and 36 of Township 27 South, Range 16 West and Sections 1-3 of Township 28 South, Range 16 West in Grant County.

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An archaeology survey will be conducted for the site as required by the Bureau of Land Management and New Mexico State Land Office. If there are known cultural resources in the vicinity of this project that your tribe is aware of, please provide any comments and concerns to MMD by April 13, 2021. Please contact me at (505) 467-9671, or Jenn Johnson of my staff at (505) 470-5354 or jennifere.johnson@state.nm.us with any questions or if you wish to meet to discuss the application.

Sincerely,

Jerry Schoeppner, Director
Mining and Minerals Division

Enclosures (Project Vicinity Map)

cc: Holland Shepherd, MARP Program Manager
Project File (GR087EM)

State of New Mexico
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March 17, 2021

Director Leigh Kuwanwisiwma
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear Director Kuwanwisiwma,

The Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department has received an application from Southern Silver Corp. (U.S.) (“Permittee”) to conduct minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project will involve 6 boreholes on Bureau of Land Management property and 2 boreholes on New Mexico State Land Office property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 1.65 acres associated with the exploration activities. The Turquoise Mountain Project is located in Sections 35 and 36 of Township 27 South, Range 16 West and Sections 1-3 of Township 28 South, Range 16 West in Grant County.

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March 17, 2021

President Gabe Aguilar
Mescalero Apache Tribe
P.O. Box 227
Mescalero, NM 88340

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear President Aguilar,

The Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department has received an application from Southern Silver Corp. (U.S.) (“Permittee”) to conduct minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project will involve 6 boreholes on Bureau of Land Management property and 2 boreholes on New Mexico State Land Office property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 1.65 acres associated with the exploration activities. The Turquoise Mountain Project is located in Sections 35 and 36 of Township 27 South, Range 16 West and Sections 1-3 of Township 28 South, Range 16 West in Grant County.

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March 17, 2021

Ms. Holly Houghton
Mescalero Apache Tribe, THPO
P.O. Box 227
Mescalero, NM 88340

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear Ms. Houghton,

The Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department has received an application from Southern Silver Corp. (U.S.) (“Permittee”) to conduct minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project will involve 6 boreholes on Bureau of Land Management property and 2 boreholes on New Mexico State Land Office property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 1.65 acres associated with the exploration activities. The Turquoise Mountain Project is located in Sections 35 and 36 of Township 27 South, Range 16 West and Sections 1-3 of Township 28 South, Range 16 West in Grant County.

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March 17, 2021

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

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear Governor Zuni,

The Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department has received an application from Southern Silver Corp. (U.S.) (“Permittee”) to conduct minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project will involve 6 boreholes on Bureau of Land Management property and 2 boreholes on New Mexico State Land Office property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 1.65 acres associated with the exploration activities. The Turquoise Mountain Project is located in Sections 35 and 36 of Township 27 South, Range 16 West and Sections 1-3 of Township 28 South, Range 16 West in Grant County.

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March 17, 2021

Dr. Henry Walt
Pueblo of Isleta, THPO
P.O. Box 1270
Isleta Pueblo, NM 87022

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear Dr. Walt,

The Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department has received an application from Southern Silver Corp. (U.S.) (“Permittee”) to conduct minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project will involve 6 boreholes on Bureau of Land Management property and 2 boreholes on New Mexico State Land Office property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 1.65 acres associated with the exploration activities. The Turquoise Mountain Project is located in Sections 35 and 36 of Township 27 South, Range 16 West and Sections 1-3 of Township 28 South, Range 16 West in Grant County.

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Mining and Minerals Division



March 17, 2021

President Jonathan Nez
Navajo Nation
P.O. Box 7440
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear President Nez,

The Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department has received an application from Southern Silver Corp. (U.S.) (“Permittee”) to conduct minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project will involve 6 boreholes on Bureau of Land Management property and 2 boreholes on New Mexico State Land Office property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 1.65 acres associated with the exploration activities. The Turquoise Mountain Project is located in Sections 35 and 36 of Township 27 South, Range 16 West and Sections 1-3 of Township 28 South, Range 16 West in Grant County.

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Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Jerry Schoeppner, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



March 17, 2021

Dr. Richard Begay
Navajo Nation, THPO
P.O. Box 4950
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear Dr. Begay ,

The Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department has received an application from Southern Silver Corp. (U.S.) (“Permittee”) to conduct minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project will involve 6 boreholes on Bureau of Land Management property and 2 boreholes on New Mexico State Land Office property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 1.65 acres associated with the exploration activities. The Turquoise Mountain Project is located in Sections 35 and 36 of Township 27 South, Range 16 West and Sections 1-3 of Township 28 South, Range 16 West in Grant County.

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Jerry Schoepner, Director
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March 17, 2021

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

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear Governor Vallo,

The Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department has received an application from Southern Silver Corp. (U.S.) (“Permittee”) to conduct minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project will involve 6 boreholes on Bureau of Land Management property and 2 boreholes on New Mexico State Land Office property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 1.65 acres associated with the exploration activities. The Turquoise Mountain Project is located in Sections 35 and 36 of Township 27 South, Range 16 West and Sections 1-3 of Township 28 South, Range 16 West in Grant County.

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Jerry Schoepner, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



March 17, 2021

Mr. Damian Garcia
Pueblo of Acoma, THPO
P.O. Box 309
Acoma, NM 87034

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear Mr. Garcia,

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Jerry Schoeppner, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



March 17, 2021

Governor Val R. Panteah, Sr.
Pueblo of Zuni
P.O. Box 339
Zuni, NM 87327

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear Governor Panteah, Sr.,

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Jerry Schoepner, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



March 17, 2021

Mr. Kurt Dongoske
Pueblo of Zuni, THPO
P.O. Box 1149
Zuni, NM 87327

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear Mr. Dongoske,

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Jerry Schoeppner, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



March 17, 2021

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

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear Chairwoman Lee-Gatewood,

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Mr. Mark Altaha
White Mountain Apache Tribe, THPO
P.O. Box 700
Whiteriver, AZ 85941

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

Dear Mr. Altaha,

The Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department has received an application from Southern Silver Corp. (U.S.) (“Permittee”) to conduct minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3 NMAC of the New Mexico Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed project will involve 6 boreholes on Bureau of Land Management property and 2 boreholes on New Mexico State Land Office property. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 1.65 acres associated with the exploration activities. The Turquoise Mountain Project is located in Sections 35 and 36 of Township 27 South, Range 16 West and Sections 1-3 of Township 28 South, Range 16 West in Grant County.

“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. Please see the attached map of the project vicinity. The application can also be viewed in its entirety by visiting the MMD web site at http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/MMD/MARP/TurquoiseMountain_GR087EM.html.

An archaeology survey will be conducted for the site as required by the Bureau of Land Management and New Mexico State Land Office. If there are known cultural resources in the vicinity of this project that your tribe is aware of, please provide any comments and concerns to MMD by April 13, 2021. Please contact me at (505) 467-9671, or Jenn Johnson of my staff at (505) 470-5354 or jennifere.johnson@state.nm.us with any questions or if you wish to meet to discuss the application.

Sincerely,

Jerry Schoeppner, Director
Mining and Minerals Division

Enclosures (Project Vicinity Map)

cc: Holland Shepherd, MARP Program Manager
Project File (GR087EM)

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

Jerry Schoeppner, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



March 17, 2021

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

Re: Request for Comments on Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Turquoise Mountain Project, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR087EM

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