

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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Cabinet Secretary

**Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD**  
Deputy Secretary

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



**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

June 27, 2022

Kennecott Exploration Company  
Attn: Erik Best  
2640 West 1700 South  
Salt Lake City, UT 84104

**RE: Release of Financial Assurance, Lordsburg West Exploration Project, Hidalgo County, New Mexico, Permit No. HI019EM**

Dear Mr. Best,

A Liberty Mutual Insurance Company Surety Bond (“Surety”; No. 016-050-870) in the amount of \$304,020 was submitted to the Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) and the Bureau of Land Management (“BLM”) as financial assurance for the Lordsburg West Exploration Project (Permit No. HI019EM) by Kennecott Exploration Company. (“Kennecott”) on May 16, 2018. A termination report was submitted to MMD on May 19, 2022, which requested termination of the permit and release of the financial assurance associated with the permit. MMD inspected the project area on May 31, 2022 and the BLM conducted an inspection on June 6, 2022; both agencies have determined that reclamation activities have been sufficiently completed for this project. Additionally, a confirmation email from Comstock Allied LLC approves the reclamation that was done on private lands.

Based on the inspection and a letter of concurrence from BLM dated June 21, 2022, MMD has no further need to retain Surety No. 016-050-870 as a financial assurance instrument for permit number HI019EM; therefore, the original Surety is returned to Kennecott and is enclosed with this letter.

Please contact me at (505) 490-0967 or Clint Chisler at (505) 467-9589, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Holland Shepherd  
Program Manager, Mining Act Reclamation Program (MARP)

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Enclosures: Original Liberty Mutual Insurance Company Surety Bond No. 016-050-870

BLM Determination of Required Financial Guarantee Amount Reduction  
NMNM38099

cc: Joseph Navarro, BLM Las Cruces  
Ida Villareal, BLM Santa Fe  
Mine File (HI019EM)