

From: [Councilordistrict1](#)
To: [Schoeppner, Gerard, EMNRD](#)
Cc: [Ohori, David, EMNRD](#); hollan.shepard@state.nm.us
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Emma Expansion Comment
Date: Thursday, September 15, 2022 11:29:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

Director Schoeppner,

I am writing to you to express my support of the Emma expansion project of the Tyrone Mine located in Grant County, New Mexico.

I am the Town Councilor proudly serving District 1 in Silver City, New Mexico.

In full disclosure, I am also employed by Freeport-McMoRan as a senior geologist at the Tyrone mine.

In talking to my constituents there is a consensus that the continued success of the mines is directly related to the fortunes of the Town of Silver City. The contractors that are brought to the town for mine projects contribute to lodgers tax and GRT. Professional workers such as engineers and scientists that come to work at the mine bring discretionary spending that support the arts and local business. The increased demand of foundational trades (welding, electrical etc.) has spurred Western New Mexico University to answer the call by adding vocational training to its curriculum.

The reduction in fossil fuel energy reliance in the coming decades and transition to green energy will require an immense amount of copper to succeed. A modern wind turbine requires 12,000 lbs. of copper to produce. I would rather some of that copper be produced right here in Grant County!

My personal story has led me here as an economic geologist that is responsible for the development of the Emma expansion, and I am very proud of that. I know that Freeport will use best practices in the development of this expansion in accordance with NM MMD guidelines as have been clearly demonstrated in the past.

Thank you for considering my comments,

Councilor Lucian Farmer
District 1
Town of Silver City
575-284-9293
CouncilorDistrict1@silvercitynm.gov