

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst
Cabinet Secretary

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Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Jerry Schoeppner, PG, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



September 28, 2022

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

Re: Request for NMED Comments on North Lampbright Leach Stockpile Closure/Closeout Plan, Chino Mine, Grant County, Permit No. GR009RE

Dear Ms. Maurer,

On August 31, 2022, the Mining and Minerals Division ("MMD") of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department received the document *North Lampbright Leach Stockpile Extension – Closure/Closeout Plan*, dated April 2022. This Plan was submitted to MMD to demonstrate that the amount of financial assurance currently in place for the previously permitted North Lampbright Waste Rock Stockpile is sufficient to also satisfy the cost estimates for the proposed conversion of the waste rock stockpile to a leach stockpile.

In accordance with §19.10.5.505.B(3) and §19.10.5.506.E NMAC, MMD requests that your agency review the Plan provide comments within 60-days after the receipt of this letter. A copy of the *North Lampbright Leach Stockpile Extension – Closure/Closeout Plan* may be downloaded from MMD's website at <https://www.emnrd.nm.gov/mmd/gr009re-chino-mine-closure-closeout-plan-for-north-lampbright-leach-stockpile/>

If you have any questions, please contact me by email at david.ennis@emnrd.nm.gov or at (505) 372-8634.

Sincerely,

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

cc: Mine File (GR009RE)