

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michele Lujan Grisham
Governor

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Cabinet Secretary

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Deputy Cabinet Secretary

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Mining and Minerals Division



Electronic Transmission

August 28, 2023

Eric Burch, Project Manager
LAC Minerals (USA) LLC
Cunningham Hill Mine Reclamation Project
P.O. Box 98
Grants, NM 87020

RE: Comments on the Pit Slope Stability Analysis Report, Revision 20-1, Closure/Closeout Plan Update, Cunningham Hill Mine, Permit No. SF002RE

Dear Mr. Burch,

The New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) is currently processing an application to revise Permit No. SF002RE, Cunningham Hill Mine (Revision 20-1) operated by LAC Minerals (USA) LLC (LAC). On August 15, 2023, MMD received a letter titled *Cunningham Hill Pit Slope Stability Analysis, Cunningham Hill Mine, Permit No. SF002RE*. After reviewing the Slope Stability Analysis Report, MMD is requesting that LAC provide some additional clarification:

1. The report describes long, high angle jointing in the Volcanic Breccia in the upper west pit wall. Please describe the predominant joint sets in the Volcanic Breccia, including the spacing and orientation. What is the orientation of the joint sets in relation to the pit slope?
2. Please include a written description of the geological acronyms in Figure 1.

Please respond to the comments above within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (505) 216-8399 or at carmen.rose@emnrn.nm.gov.

Sincerely,

Carmen Rose, Permit Lead
Mining Act Reclamation Program (MARP)
Mining and Minerals Division

CC: DJ Ennis, Program Manager, MARP, MMD
Joe Fox, Program Manager, NMED
Kevin Myers, Senior Reclamation Specialist, MARP, MMD
Anne Maurer, Permit Lead, NMED
Daniel Lattin, Program Manager, LAC
Brad Bingham, Director of Closure Operations, Barrick Gold Corporation
Gabe Wade, Assistant General Counsel, MMD
Eric Jantz, Attorney, NM Environmental Law Center
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Tom Parker, Friends of Santa Fe County
Ross Lockridge, Friends of Santa Fe County
Dennis Kurtz, President, San Marcos Association