

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst
Cabinet Secretary

Dylan M. Fuge
Deputy Secretary (Acting)

Albert C.S. Chang, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



Via ELECTRONIC MAIL

November 6, 2023

Tyler R. Johnson, Chief Environmental Engineer
Environmental Services
Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company
P.O. Box 10
Bayard, NM 88023

RE: Application Administratively Complete, Updated Closure/Closeout Plan (CCP) Continental Mine, Revision 23-1, Permit No. GR002RE

Dear Mr. Johnson,

The New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) received a submittal from Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company (Chino) titled, Continental Mine Closure/Closeout Plan Update - Permit GR002RE, dated July 31, 2023 (Application). MMD has assigned Revision 23-1 to process the Application. In addition, MMD received an application fee on August 8, 2023, and a proof of public notice as required by 19.10.9.903 NMAC on October 30, 2023.

After review of the Revision 23-1 Application and supplemental information, MMD deems the Application to be administratively complete pursuant to 19.10.5.506.D NMAC.

In accordance with 19.10.9.903.I NMAC, Chino shall notify the people who have indicated to MMD that they desire information regarding the application and those individuals and organizations that are on a list maintained by MMD who have requested notice of applications that have been deemed administratively complete. Chino shall notify these parties in writing and by first class mail. A list of those individuals and organizations is attached. Chino shall provide MMD with timely proof that the required notifications have been made.

MMD will send request for comment letters to the state agencies for the Revision 23-1 Application pursuant to 19.10.5.506.E NMAC. The agencies will have 60-days to provide comments, excluding approved time extensions. In the request for comment letter, the agencies will be invited join MMD at a Continental Mine site inspection on the morning of Thursday, November 30, 2023.

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Please contact me at (505) 490-0726 or at kevin.myers@emnrd.nm.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Kevin Myers, Permit Lead
Mining Act Reclamation Program (MARF)

Enclosure: Interested Parties List

cc: DJ Ennis, Program Manager, MARF
Anne Maurer, Mining Act Team Leader, MECS, GWQB-NMED
Sherry Burt-Kested, Manager, Environmental Services, FMI-Chino Mine
Mariana Lafon, FMI-Chino Mine
Christian Krueger, FMI-Chino Mine
Allyson Siwik, Executive Director, Gila Resources Information Project
Mine File (GR002RE)