Michelle Lujan Grisham

Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

**Albert Chang, Director** Mining and Minerals Division



**Dylan Fuge**Acting Deputy Cabinet Secretary

November 16, 2023

Chairwoman Lori Gooday-Ware Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma Route 2, Box 121 Apache, OK 73006

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue Permit Revision 14-1 and Update the Closure/Closeout Plan for GeoSouthwest Mill and Tailings, Luna County, New Mexico, Permit No. LU009RE

Dear Honorable Chairwoman Gooday-Ware,

This letter is a follow up to a notice previously sent to you on August 25, 2021 regarding an application from GeoSouthwest to update the five-year Closure/Closeout Plan (CCP) for GeoSouthwest Mill & Tailings, Permit No. LU009RE in Luna County under 19.10.5.506 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed updated CCP will involve tailings reclamation, mill closeout and re-issuance of the permit. This application is being tracked as Revision 14-1. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 10 additional acres associated with the reclamation activities.

Pursuant to the State Tribal Collaboration Act, we are notifying you that the applicant has satisfied all our regulatory requirements, and we are prepared to approve Revision 14-1. We would like to give you a final opportunity to provide us with comments on any traditional, cultural, and or religious properties that you would like MMD to take into consideration or request a formal consultation on the application. Please see the attached map of the project vicinity. The application can also be viewed in its entirety by visiting the MMD web site at <a href="https://www.emnrd.nm.gov/mmd/mining-act-reclamation-program/pending-and-approved-mine-applications/mining-applications-regular-existing/lu009regeo-southwest-deming-mill-and-tailing-impoundment/">https://www.emnrd.nm.gov/mmd/mining-act-reclamation-program/pending-and-approved-mine-applications/mining-applications-regular-existing/lu009regeo-southwest-deming-mill-and-tailing-impoundment/</a>.

If you have any comments or wish to consult with us on the application, please do so by December 1, 2023, by contacting me at (505) 490-0726 or <a href="mailto:kevin.myers@emnrd.nm.gov">kevin.myers@emnrd.nm.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Kevin C. Myers, Permit Lead

Kerin C Myn

Mining and Minerals Division

Enclosure (Project Vicinity Map)

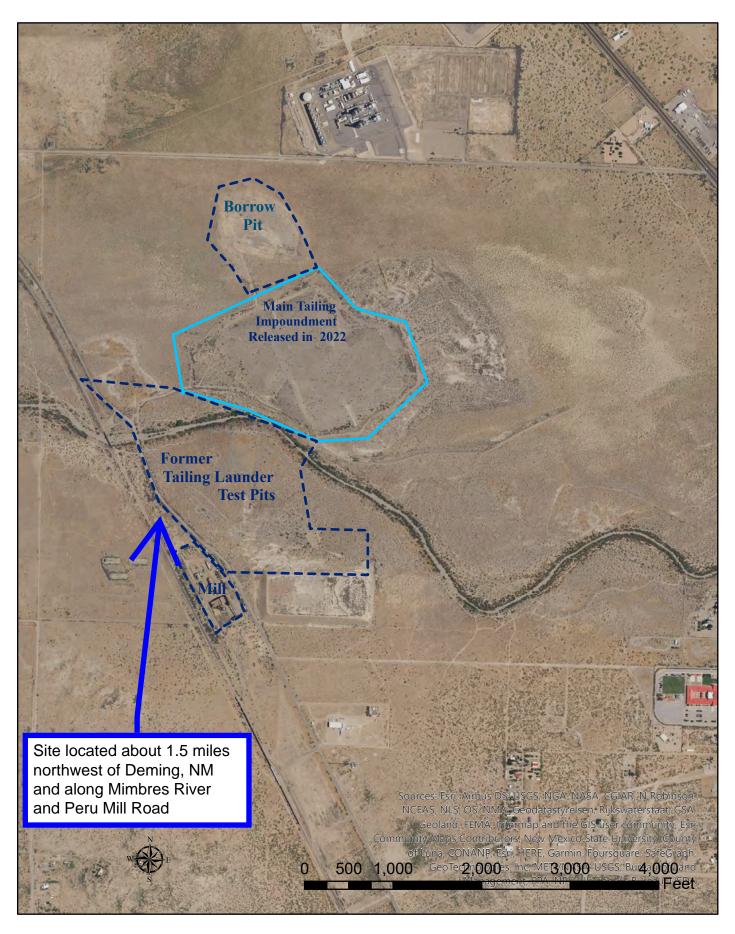


Figure 1 Approximate Permit Area for LU009RE Revision 14-1 February 2023. Base map uses 2020 orthoimagery.

Michelle Lujan Grisham

Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary **Albert Chang, Director** Mining and Minerals Division



**Dylan Fuge**Acting Deputy Cabinet Secretary

November 16, 2023

Stewart Koyiyumptewa Hopi Tribe – Cultural Preservation Office P.O. Box 123 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue Permit Revision 14-1 and Update the Closure/Closeout Plan for GeoSouthwest Mill and Tailings, Luna County, New Mexico, Permit No. LU009RE

Dear Director Koyiyumptewa,

This letter is a follow up to a notice previously sent to you on August 25, 2021 regarding an application from GeoSouthwest to update the five-year Closure/Closeout Plan (CCP) for GeoSouthwest Mill & Tailings, Permit No. LU009RE in Luna County under 19.10.5.506 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed updated CCP will involve tailings reclamation, mill closeout and re-issuance of the permit. This application is being tracked as Revision 14-1. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 10 additional acres associated with the reclamation activities.

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Mining and Minerals Division

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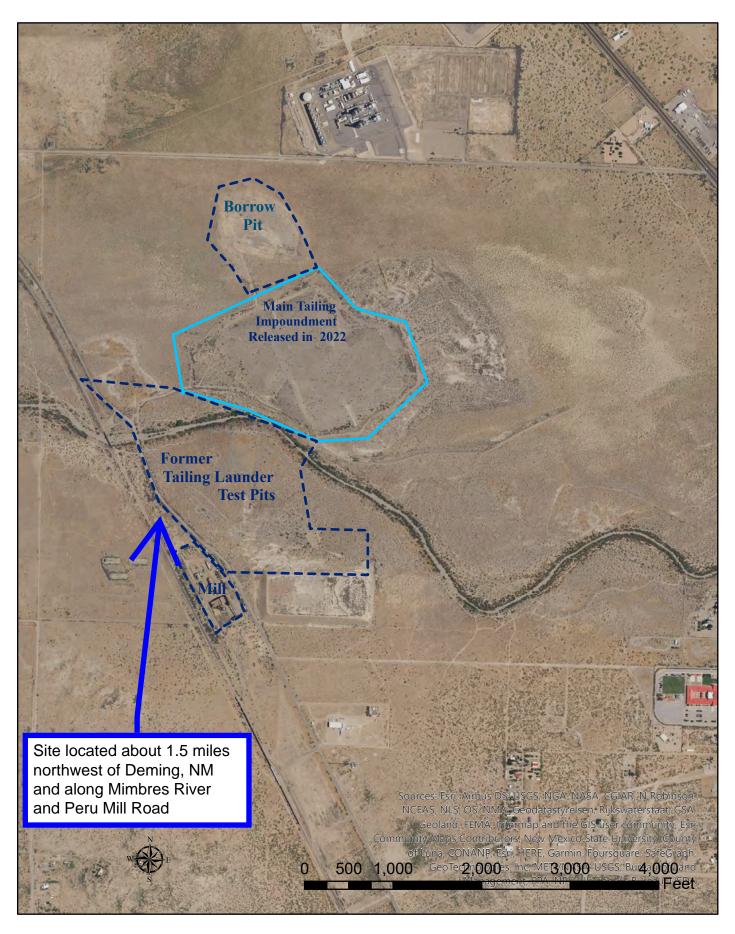


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Michelle Lujan Grisham

Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

**Albert Chang, Director** Mining and Minerals Division



**Dylan Fuge**Acting Deputy Cabinet Secretary

November 16, 2023

Chairman Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma Hopi Tribe P.O. Box 123 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue Permit Revision 14-1 and Update the Closure/Closeout Plan for GeoSouthwest Mill and Tailings, Luna County, New Mexico, Permit No. LU009RE

Dear Honorable Chairman Nuvangyaoma,

This letter is a follow up to a notice previously sent to you on August 25, 2021 regarding an application from GeoSouthwest to update the five-year Closure/Closeout Plan (CCP) for GeoSouthwest Mill & Tailings, Permit No. LU009RE in Luna County under 19.10.5.506 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed updated CCP will involve tailings reclamation, mill closeout and re-issuance of the permit. This application is being tracked as Revision 14-1. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 10 additional acres associated with the reclamation activities.

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Mining and Minerals Division

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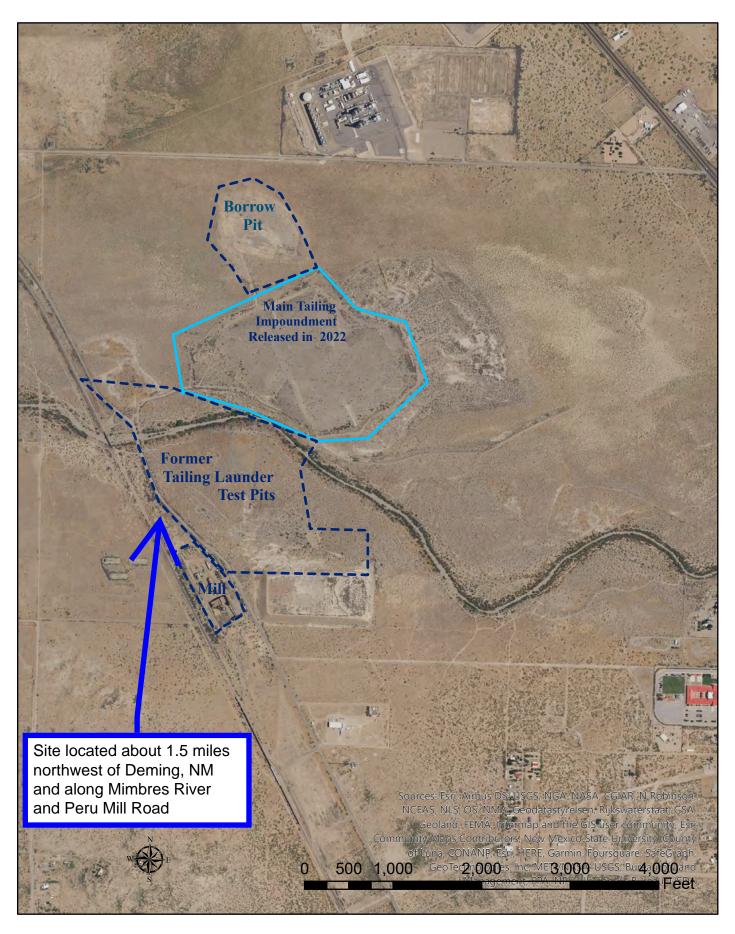


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Michelle Lujan Grisham

Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

**Albert Chang, Director** Mining and Minerals Division



**Dylan Fuge**Acting Deputy Cabinet Secretary

November 16, 2023

Holly Houghton
Mescalero Apache Tribe – Tribal Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 227
Mescalero, NM 88340

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue Permit Revision 14-1 and Update the Closure/Closeout Plan for GeoSouthwest Mill and Tailings, Luna County, New Mexico, Permit No. LU009RE

Dear Ms. Houghton,

This letter is a follow up to a notice previously sent to you on August 25, 2021 regarding an application from GeoSouthwest to update the five-year Closure/Closeout Plan (CCP) for GeoSouthwest Mill & Tailings, Permit No. LU009RE in Luna County under 19.10.5.506 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed updated CCP will involve tailings reclamation, mill closeout and re-issuance of the permit. This application is being tracked as Revision 14-1. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 10 additional acres associated with the reclamation activities.

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Kevin C. Myers, Permit Lead Mining and Minerals Division

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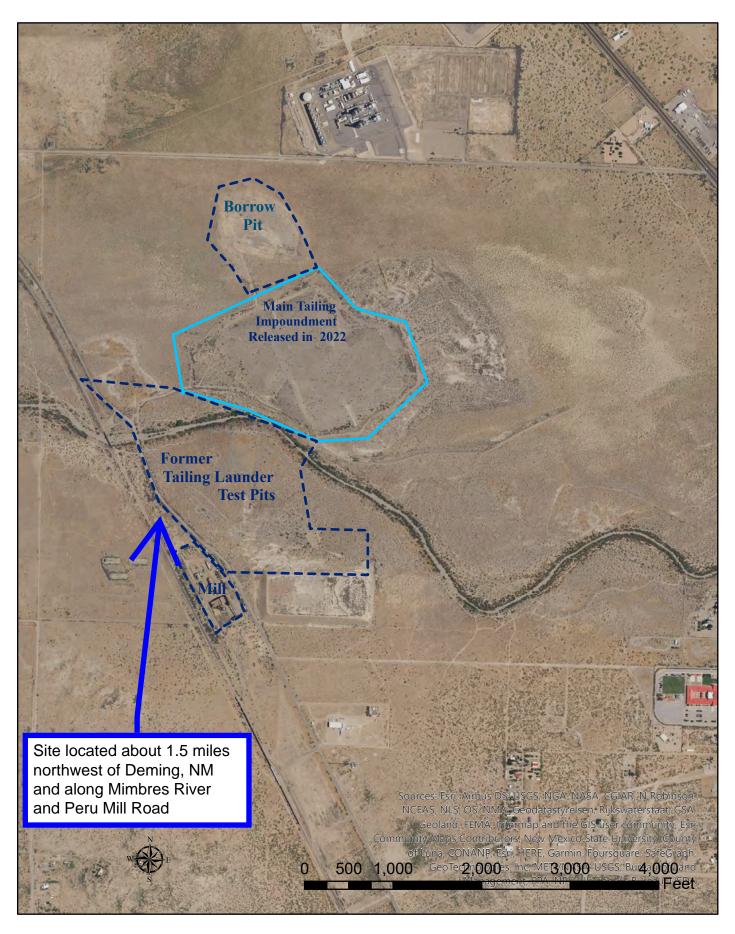


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Michelle Lujan Grisham

Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

**Albert Chang, Director** Mining and Minerals Division



**Dylan Fuge**Acting Deputy Cabinet Secretary

November 16, 2023

President Eddy Martinez Mescalero Apache Tribe P.O. Box 227 Mescalero, NM 88340

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue Permit Revision 14-1 and Update the Closure/Closeout Plan for GeoSouthwest Mill and Tailings, Luna County, New Mexico, Permit No. LU009RE

Dear Honorable President Martinez,

This letter is a follow up to a notice previously sent to you on August 25, 2021 regarding an application from GeoSouthwest to update the five-year Closure/Closeout Plan (CCP) for GeoSouthwest Mill & Tailings, Permit No. LU009RE in Luna County under 19.10.5.506 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed updated CCP will involve tailings reclamation, mill closeout and re-issuance of the permit. This application is being tracked as Revision 14-1. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 10 additional acres associated with the reclamation activities.

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Mining and Minerals Division

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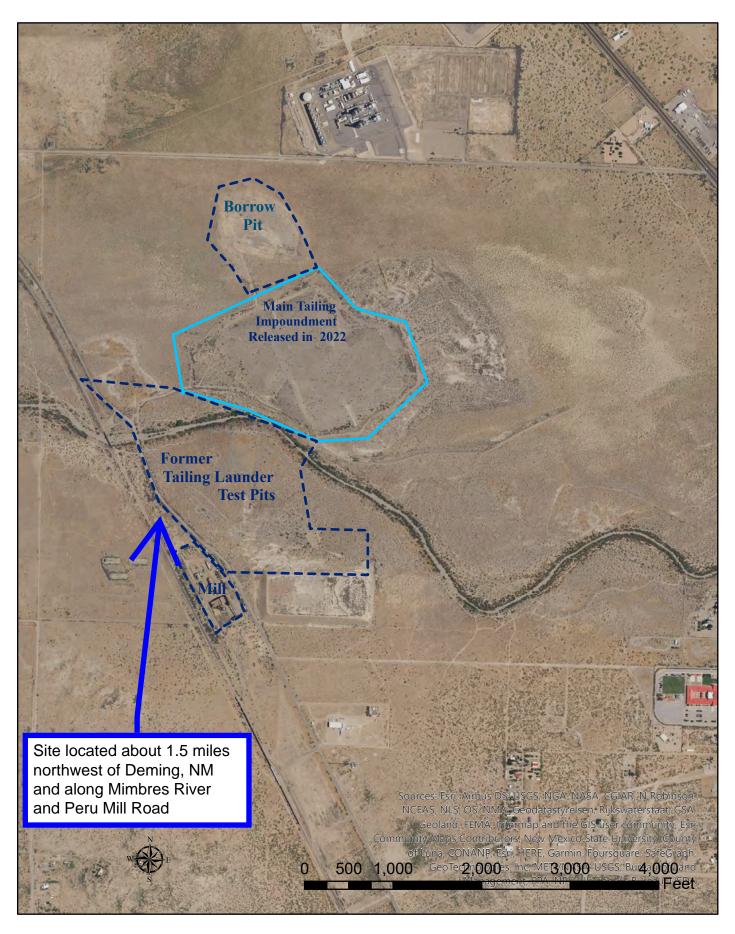


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Michelle Lujan Grisham

Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

**Albert Chang, Director** Mining and Minerals Division



**Dylan Fuge**Acting Deputy Cabinet Secretary

November 16, 2023

Mark Altaha White Mountain Apache Tribe – Tribal Historic Preservation Office P.O. Box 1032 Fort Apache, AZ 85926

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue Permit Revision 14-1 and Update the Closure/Closeout Plan for GeoSouthwest Mill and Tailings, Luna County, New Mexico, Permit No. LU009RE

Dear Mr. Altaha,

This letter is a follow up to a notice previously sent to you on August 25, 2021 regarding an application from GeoSouthwest to update the five-year Closure/Closeout Plan (CCP) for GeoSouthwest Mill & Tailings, Permit No. LU009RE in Luna County under 19.10.5.506 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed updated CCP will involve tailings reclamation, mill closeout and re-issuance of the permit. This application is being tracked as Revision 14-1. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 10 additional acres associated with the reclamation activities.

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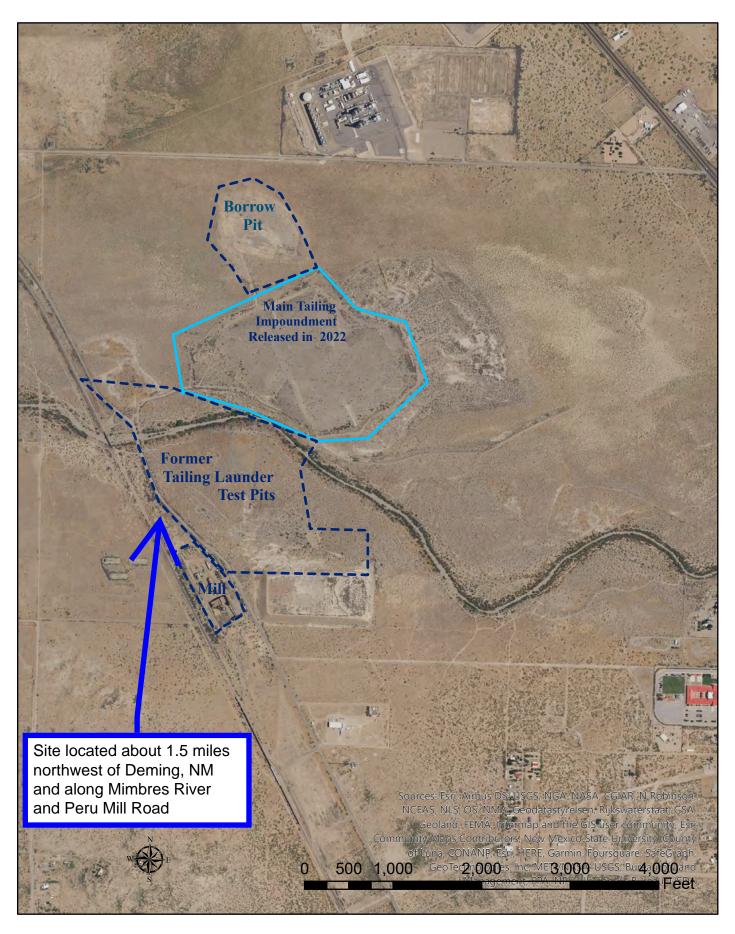


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Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

**Albert Chang, Director** Mining and Minerals Division



**Dylan Fuge**Acting Deputy Cabinet Secretary

November 16, 2023

Chairman Kasey Velasquez White Mountain Apache Tribe P.O. Box 700 Whiteriver, AZ 85941

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue Permit Revision 14-1 and Update the Closure/Closeout Plan for GeoSouthwest Mill and Tailings, Luna County, New Mexico, Permit No. LU009RE

Dear Honorable Chairman Velasquez,

This letter is a follow up to a notice previously sent to you on August 25, 2021 regarding an application from GeoSouthwest to update the five-year Closure/Closeout Plan (CCP) for GeoSouthwest Mill & Tailings, Permit No. LU009RE in Luna County under 19.10.5.506 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act (NMSA 1978, §69-36-1 et seq.). The proposed updated CCP will involve tailings reclamation, mill closeout and re-issuance of the permit. This application is being tracked as Revision 14-1. The applicant anticipates disturbing approximately 10 additional acres associated with the reclamation activities.

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Mining and Minerals Division

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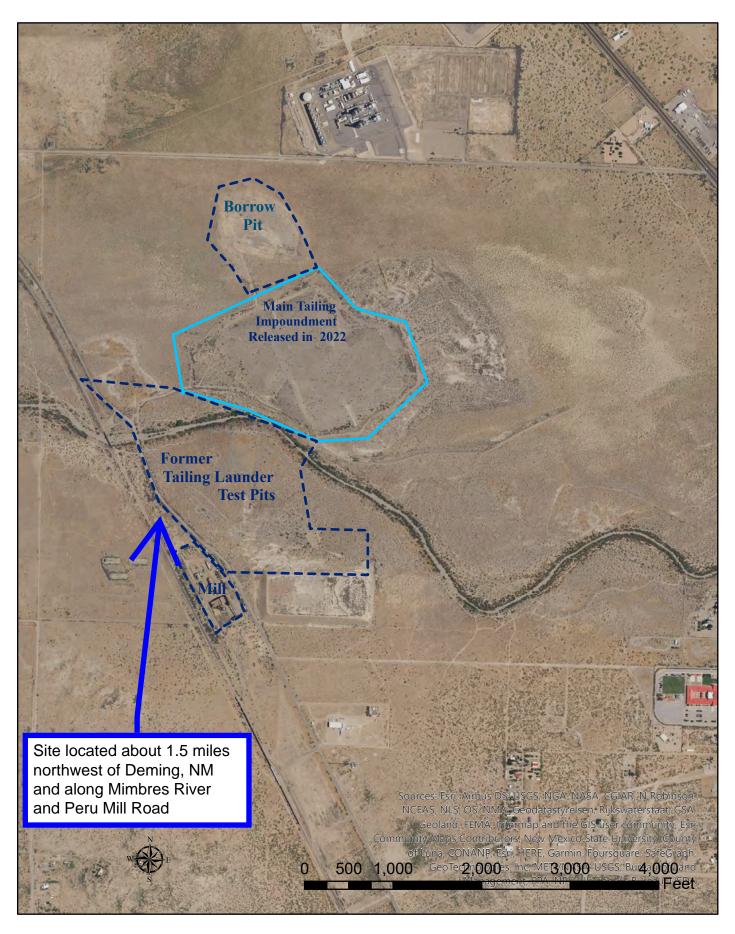


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Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

**Albert Chang, Director** Mining and Minerals Division



**Dylan Fuge**Acting Deputy Cabinet Secretary

November 16, 2023

Javier Loera Ysleta del Sur Pueblo – Tribal Historic Preservation Office 305 Yala Lane El Paso, TX 79907

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue Permit Revision 14-1 and Update the Closure/Closeout Plan for GeoSouthwest Mill and Tailings, Luna County, New Mexico, Permit No. LU009RE

Dear Mr. Loera,

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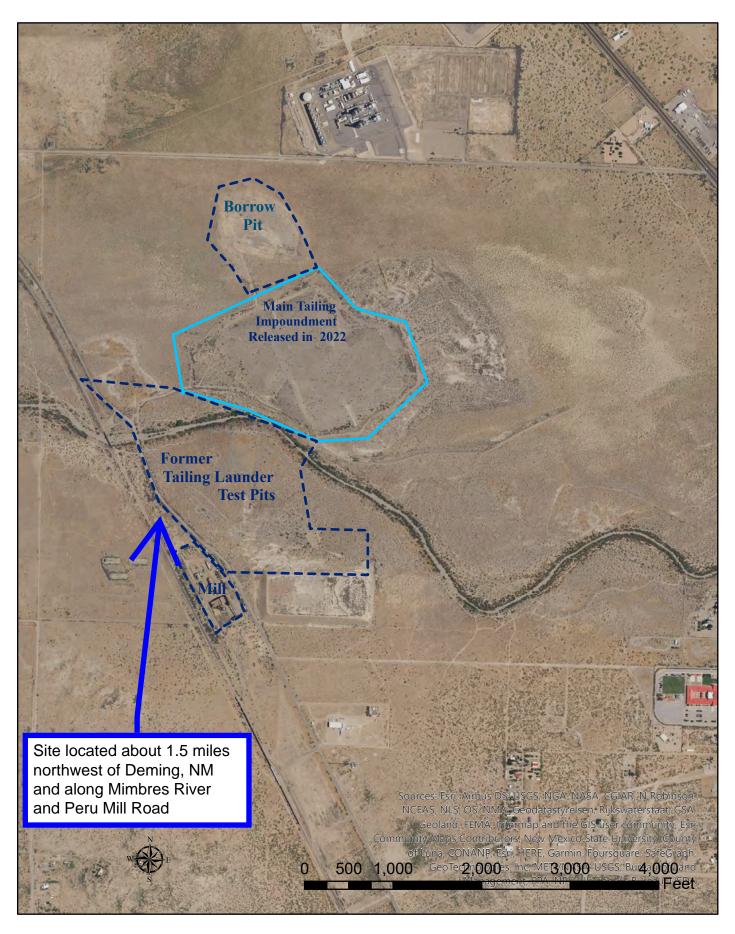


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Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

**Albert Chang, Director** Mining and Minerals Division



**Dylan Fuge**Acting Deputy Cabinet Secretary

November 16, 2023

Governor E. Michael Silvas Ysleta del Sur Pueblo 117 S. Old Pueblo Road, P.O. Box 17579 El Paso, TX 79907

Re: Notice of Intent to Issue Permit Revision 14-1 and Update the Closure/Closeout Plan for GeoSouthwest Mill and Tailings, Luna County, New Mexico, Permit No. LU009RE

Dear Honorable Governor Silvas,

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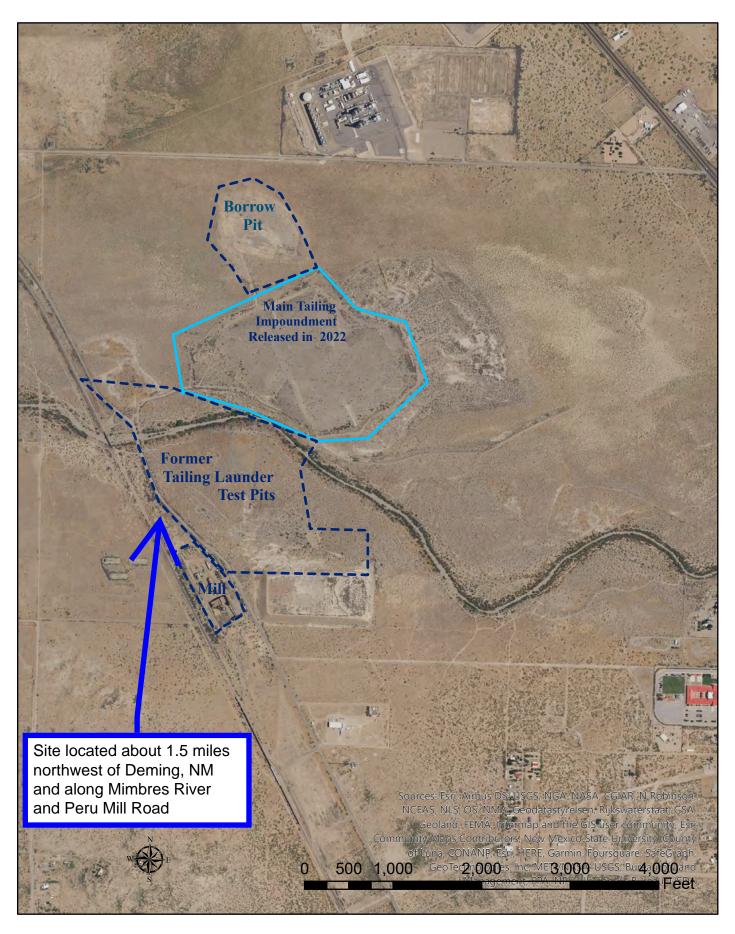


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