

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst
Cabinet Secretary

Dylan Fuge
Acting Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Albert Chang, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



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 <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/>.

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 kevin.myers@emnrd.nm.gov.

Sincerely,

Kevin C. Myers, Permit Lead
Mining and Minerals Division

Enclosure (Project Vicinity Map)

cc: Mine File - LU009RE



Site located about 1.5 miles northwest of Deming, NM and along Mimbres River and Peru Mill Road

Sources: Esri, Airbus DS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodatastyrelsen, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap and the GIS user community, Esri Community Maps Contributors, New Mexico State University, County of Luma, CONANP, Esri, HERE, Garmin, Foursquare, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA

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

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November 16, 2023

Stewart Koyiyumtewa
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 Koyiyumtewa,

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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Albert Chang, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



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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Albert Chang, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



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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Acting Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Albert Chang, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



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



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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Albert Chang, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



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



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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Mining and Minerals Division



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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