

Tribal Consultation with Zia and USFS

La Jara Mesa Mine
Permit #: CI008RN
Date: October 8, 2024

Name of Operator: Laramide Resources

Commodity: Uranium

INSPECTION DETAILS

Purpose: Zia requested a 1 on 1 tribal consultation on site with the Forest Service.

Weather Conditions Sunny and warm

MMD represenatives: Samantha Rynas, *DJ Ennis*, and *Tribal Liaison Ben Shelton*

Present: *NMED:* Amber Rheubottom; *USFS:* Jeremy Kulisheck, Jenna Padilla, Joseph Jaffa-Martinez, Yolanda Begay, Niaomi Delay, Hedi McRoberts, *Zia Pueblo representatives:* Ulysses Reid, Dalbert

Time: On-Site: 6 hrs Permit Review: 0 Travel: 6 Report Writing: 1

TOTAL TIME: 13 hours

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PERMIT STATUS

MMD is currently reviewing the Draft BRD.

INSPECTION NARRATIVE AND PHOTOS

Arrived on site at 10. Caravanned into the main site area at the base of the mesa.

We stopped along the way and saw where the proposed new road would diverge off the Forest Road, as well as the location of the current well. USFS provided additional details about Cultural resources along the access routes. The proposed road will be avoiding cultural sites along the forest service road.

USFS discussed the visibility of the proposed structures at a distance from the mine site. They indicated due to topography and the small nature the site would have low visibility. They referenced the historic "Taffy" Mine as a bigger feature.

USFS found a large pottery shard present along the road while we were on site.

USFS walked the area of a known Archeological site and discussed the age and relevance of this site. It was a large site, likely a farmstead over 1K years old. Significant pottery shards have been

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observed with traditional techniques observable. As stated by USFS this area will be destroyed if construction of mine site proceeds, there is no mitigation and they are requesting that Zia make recommendations on how to handle/move forward with addressing the site.

Zia representatives asked a few questions. Which areas would be leveled, how tall, how high up were the addits. They asked about material being used



Jeremy Kulisheck talking about pottery items, age and relevance to the farmstead site.

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Some small pottery shards from the area.



Pottery with finger “pinch” impressions that date it to ~1K years old.

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MMD staff reviewing proposed portal

locations



Unknown PVC pipe in drainage at the toe of the site. No labels, not locked.

Escape Raise Location: This area is very small, and Laramide has said they will not even remove any trees from the area to build structures. Tree height will effectively cover view of the structure. Some concerns were again raised on monitoring the area for vandalism given the public access and remote location. Discussions on how the escape raise functions in terms of man activated or remote controlled. Possibly equipment will need daily safety checks under MSHA.

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Zia didn't express any direct comments or concerns at this time. They mentioned there was a tribal meeting in the next week and they would discuss with tribal entities then. USFS emphasized this was the tribes opportunity to have input on how they want artifacts and cultural items handled.

ACTION ITEMS

Continue Draft BDR review.

INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: Samantha Rynas **DATE:** 10/15/2024