

Randall Vicente, Governor Wendell Chino, 1st Lt. Governor Ted Ortiz, 2nd Lt. Governor Francis Johnson, Tribal Secretary Norman F. Torivio, Tribal Interpreter

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October 16, 2024

Samantha Rynas, Permit Lead Mining and Mineral Division State of New Mexico 1220 South St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

RE: Request for Consultation - La Jara Mesa Uranium Mine

Dear Permit Lead, Rynas,

Thank you for your letter dated September 13, 2024, inviting the Pueblo of Acoma ("Pueblo" or "Acoma") to consult on the proposed La Jara Mesa Uranium Mine. Acoma has a significant interest in the protection of *Kaweshtima*, Mt. Taylor, as the Pueblo played a significant role in the nomination of Mt. Taylor as a traditional cultural property on the State Register of Cultural Properties. Therefore, we appreciate the Mining and Mineral Division's proactive engagement with the Pueblo on this critical matter.

We accept and propose to host the consultation meeting at the Pueblo of Acoma. A private setting is appropriate given the sensitivity of the matters and the length of discussion the subject requires. The participants in the consultation meeting include the Acoma Tribal Administration, the Acoma Tribal Historic Preservation Office, the Acoma Natural Resource Department, and the Pueblo's general counsel. Please contact Tribal Secretary Francis Johnson (tsecretary@poamail.org) to arrange the date and time for this meeting.

We appreciate your invitation and look forward to your response, and please do not hesitate to contact the Pueblo if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

PUEBLO OF ACOMA

Randall Vicente

Governor

cc: Francis Johnson, Tribal Secretary

Steven Concho, Acoma Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Donna Martinez, Acoma Environment Department

Franklin Martinez, Acoma Department of Natural Resources

Aaron M. Sims, Chestnut Law Offices, P.A.