

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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**Michele Lujan Grisham**  
Governor

**Melanie A. Kenderdine**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Ben Shelton**  
Acting Deputy Secretary

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



March 11, 2025

Frank Bain, Geologist  
2425 Chof Trail  
Flagstaff, AZ 86005

**RE: Permit Expiration/Termination, Lordsburg Playa Lithium Exploration Project,  
Permit No. HI018EM – Hidalgo County, New Mexico**

Mr. Bain:

Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) previously provided notification that permit number HI018EM has expired. MMD received notification by email on March 5, 2025, that you have elected not to renew this permit due to the depressed price of lithium and lack of funding for exploration.

This letter provides written notification that permit number HI018EM, and Modification 23-1 to permit HI018EM (which was in technical review), are hereby terminated due to expiration. MMD understands that financial assurance in the amount of \$17,000.00 is currently being held by the Bureau of Land Management (“BLM”) for this permit, which is now eligible for release from MMD’s perspective. MMD recommends that you contact BLM to request release of this financial assurance.

If you wish to perform exploration in the future, MMD will require a new permit application and application fee for the project. MMD will also require joint bonding if the project occurs on the surface estate of BLM.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 372-8634 or [david.ennis@emnrd.nm.gov](mailto:david.ennis@emnrd.nm.gov).

Sincerely,

David (DJ) Ennis, P.G.  
Program Manager

CC via email: Corey Durr, BLM Las Cruces