

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Erin Taylor
Acting Cabinet Secretary

Ben Shelton
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Anna Aquilera
Division Director
Mining and Minerals Division



September 15, 2026

Chairwoman Jennifer M. Heminokeky, VC
43187 US Hwy 281
Apache, OK 73006

Re: Request for Comments and Offer to Consult on Hachita BCE Exploration Project, Permit Application, Permit No. HI027EM

Dear Chairwoman Jennifer M. Heminokeky, VC,

The Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) has received an application from Bronco Creek Exploration to conduct a minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3.302 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act. This application requests drilling of twenty exploration boreholes to a depth of 4,000 feet each, construction of fifteen drill pads 115 feet by 80 feet (3.39 acres), 0.5 acres of new road construction, and 0.41 acres of road improvements. The applicant anticipates disturbing a total of 4.3 acres associated with this project on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land within the boundaries of the claim numbers identified in the application located approximately 12 miles south of Hachita, NM in Hidalgo County, New Mexico.

This notification of application is being submitted to you pursuant to the State Tribal Collaboration Act. MMD is requesting comments from you on any traditional, cultural and or religious properties that you would like MMD to take into consideration and is offering to consult with you on the application.

The application can be viewed in its entirety by visiting the MMD web site at the link below.

<https://www.emnrd.nm.gov/mmd/hi027em-hachita-bce-project/>

MMD recommends that this letter be forwarded to your tribe's Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) and Environmental Department.

Cultural Resource Surveys will be completed through the BLM permitting process, a copy of which can be requested from the State Historic Preservation Division. Please provide any comments or request a formal consultation within 20 days of the date on this letter. If you wish to consult with us on this application or have any questions, please contact me at (505) 467-9589 or clinton.chisler@emnrd.nm.gov.

Sincerely,

Clint Chisler, Permit Lead
Mining and Minerals Division

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September 15, 2026

Naomi Hartford, Cultural Coordinator
43187 US Hwy 281
Apache, OK 73006

Re: Request for Comments and Offer to Consult on Hachita BCE Exploration Project, Permit Application, Permit No. HI027EM

Dear Ms. Harford,

The Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) has received an application from Bronco Creek Exploration to conduct a minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3.302 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act. This application requests drilling of twenty exploration boreholes to a depth of 4,000 feet each, construction of fifteen drill pads 115 feet by 80 feet (3.39 acres), 0.5 acres of new road construction, and 0.41 acres of road improvements. The applicant anticipates disturbing a total of 4.3 acres associated with this project on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land within the boundaries of the claim numbers identified in the application located approximately 12 miles south of Hachita, NM in Hidalgo County, New Mexico.

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September 15, 2026

Madam President Thora Walsh-Padilla
P.O. Box 227
Mescalero, NM 88340

Re: Request for Comments and Offer to Consult on Hachita BCE Exploration Project, Permit Application, Permit No. HI027EM

Dear Madam President Thora Walsh-Padilla,

The Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) has received an application from Bronco Creek Exploration to conduct a minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3.302 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act. This application requests drilling of twenty exploration boreholes to a depth of 4,000 feet each, construction of fifteen drill pads 115 feet by 80 feet (3.39 acres), 0.5 acres of new road construction, and 0.41 acres of road improvements. The applicant anticipates disturbing a total of 4.3 acres associated with this project on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land within the boundaries of the claim numbers identified in the application located approximately 12 miles south of Hachita, NM in Hidalgo County, New Mexico.

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September 15, 2026

THPO Holly Houghton
P.O. Box 227
Mescalero, NM 88340

Re: Request for Comments and Offer to Consult on Hachita BCE Exploration Project, Permit Application, Permit No. HI027EM

Dear Ms. Houghton,

The Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) has received an application from Bronco Creek Exploration to conduct a minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3.302 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act. This application requests drilling of twenty exploration boreholes to a depth of 4,000 feet each, construction of fifteen drill pads 115 feet by 80 feet (3.39 acres), 0.5 acres of new road construction, and 0.41 acres of road improvements. The applicant anticipates disturbing a total of 4.3 acres associated with this project on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land within the boundaries of the claim numbers identified in the application located approximately 12 miles south of Hachita, NM in Hidalgo County, New Mexico.

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September 15, 2026

Chairman Kasey Velasquez
P.O. Box 700
Whiteriver, AZ 85941

Re: Request for Comments and Offer to Consult on Hachita BCE Exploration Project, Permit Application, Permit No. HI027EM

Dear Chairman Kasey Velasquez,

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Mining and Minerals Division



September 15, 2026

THPO Mark Altaha
P.O. Box 1032
Fort Apache, AZ 85926

Re: Request for Comments and Offer to Consult on Hachita BCE Exploration Project, Permit Application, Permit No. HI027EM

Dear Mr. Mark Altaha,

The Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) has received an application from Bronco Creek Exploration to conduct a minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3.302 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act. This application requests drilling of twenty exploration boreholes to a depth of 4,000 feet each, construction of fifteen drill pads 115 feet by 80 feet (3.39 acres), 0.5 acres of new road construction, and 0.41 acres of road improvements. The applicant anticipates disturbing a total of 4.3 acres associated with this project on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land within the boundaries of the claim numbers identified in the application located approximately 12 miles south of Hachita, NM in Hidalgo County, New Mexico.

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September 15, 2026

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

Re: Request for Comments and Offer to Consult on Hachita BCE Exploration Project, Permit Application, Permit No. HI027EM

Dear Chairman Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma,

The Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) has received an application from Bronco Creek Exploration to conduct a minimal impact exploration project under 19.10.3.302 NMAC of the New Mexico Mining Act. This application requests drilling of twenty exploration boreholes to a depth of 4,000 feet each, construction of fifteen drill pads 115 feet by 80 feet (3.39 acres), 0.5 acres of new road construction, and 0.41 acres of road improvements. The applicant anticipates disturbing a total of 4.3 acres associated with this project on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land within the boundaries of the claim numbers identified in the application located approximately 12 miles south of Hachita, NM in Hidalgo County, New Mexico.

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September 15, 2026

Director Stewart Koyiyumtewa
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmobi, AZ 86039

Re: Request for Comments and Offer to Consult on Hachita BCE Exploration Project, Permit Application, Permit No. HI027EM

Dear Director Stewart Koyiyumtewa,

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