

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Erin Taylor
Acting Cabinet Secretary

Benjamin Shelton
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Anna Aguilera
Division Director
Mining and Minerals Division



September 22, 2026

Mr. Joseph Fox
Mining Environmental Compliance Section
New Mexico Environment Department
121 Tijeras Ave NE, Suite 1-108
Albuquerque NM 87102

**RE: Request for Environmental Determination, Revision 24-2, 2024 CCP Update,
Chino Mine, Grant County, New Mexico, Permit No. GR009RE**

Dear Mr. Fox,

The New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) has received and reviewed an application for a revision to the closeout plan for the Chino Mine, Permit No. GR009RE. As of August 28, 2026, MMD has determined the permit revision application (Revision 24-2) is complete and technically approvable. MMD requests that the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) provide a written determination from the NMED Secretary that fulfills the requirements of 19.10.5.506(J)(5) NMAC as follows:

"...the application has demonstrated that the activities to be permitted or authorized will be expected to achieve compliance with all applicable air, water quality, and other environmental standards if carried out as described in the closeout plan. This determination shall address applicable standards for air, surface water and ground water protection enforced by the Environment Department or for which the Environment Department is otherwise responsible."

If you have any questions, please contact the permit lead for Permit No. GR009RE at (505) 470-5354 or kevin.barnes@emnrd.nm.gov.

Sincerely,

Kevin Barnes
Permit Lead, Mining Act Reclamation Program
Mining and Minerals Division

cc: David "DJ" Ennis, Mining Act Reclamation Program ("MARF") Program Manager
Brad Reid, NMED
Mine File: (GR009RE)