



Cobre Mining Company
P.O. Box 10
Bayard, NM 88023

December 23, 2014



Certified Mail #70133020000041046539
Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Fernando Martinez, Director
Mining and Minerals Division (MMD)
1220 South St. Francis Dr.
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6110

Dear Mr. Martinez:

Re: Request to Revise Permit GR002RE to Return to Operating Status

Freeport-McMoRan Cobre Mining Company (Cobre) submits this letter as application to revise mining permit GR002RE to end standby status and return the permit to operating status. Cobre was granted renewal of its standby status in November 2013 with Revision 12-1 to its mining permit.

Cobre now intends to commence surface mining, as previously approved by MMD, and as soon as reasonably possible but with an anticipated start date of mid-2016. Cobre is not requesting any changes to already approved units, its permit boundary or design limits with this application. A separate application was submitted to MMD in August 2014 to expand the permit boundary and change design limits in order to facilitate the construction of a haul road between Cobre and Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company. Mining activities at Cobre will be conducted consistent with already authorized activities at Cobre.

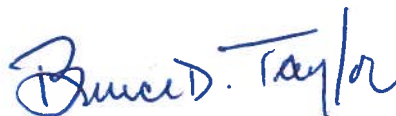
A closeout plan for Cobre was approved by MMD on March 3, 2005 under permit Revision 01-1. Pursuant to Condition EE of Revision 12-1, and to support this revision to end standby status, Cobre has submitted under separate cover dated December 12, 2014 an update to its approved Closure/Closeout Plan. Six copies of the Updated Plan were provided at that time. The Updated 2014 Closure/Closeout Plan describes the closeout measures to address disturbances at Cobre that will be undertaken upon return to operating status.

A check in the amount of \$5,000 is enclosed for this application. A draft of the proposed public notice for the requested permit revision is also enclosed for your review and approval. Once approved, Cobre will proceed with publishing the notice in both English and Spanish.

Mr. Fernando Martinez
December 23, 2014
Page 2

Please call me at (575) 912-5907 with any questions on this submittal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce D. Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Bruce D. Taylor, Manager
Freeport-McMoRan Cobre Mining Company

BDT:kes

Enclosures (2)

c. w/out enclosures: Kurt Vollbrecht, Ground Water Quality Bureau, NMED
Holland Shepherd, Program Manager, MARP, MMD

20141223-001