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Protecting Our Environment Since 1998*

October 14, 2025

Erin McCullough, Division Director
New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division
1220 South St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505

RE: Request for Public Hearing for Copper Flat Mine Amended Application, Permit SI027RN

Dear Ms. McCullough:

In response to the public notice received by certified mail on October 2, I would like to request a public hearing on the Copper Flat Mine Amended Mine Operation and Reclamation Plan, Tailings Filtration and Conveyance, Cake Stack Pre-Feasibility Engineering Design, and Updated Probable Hydrologic Consequences Analysis.

The amended application is a significant change from the mine operation and reclamation plan that were the subject of an MMD hearing in October 2018. New Mexico Copper Corporation's amended application now proposes to use dry stack tailings rather than construct a wet tailing storage facility.

There are a number of potential environmental impacts with dry stack tailings that should be discussed at a public hearing including the following:

- Generation of fugitive dust from filtered tailings causing particulate air pollution in the area
- Geotechnical stability and erosion issues with the filtered tailings facility
- Reclamation issues specific to dry stack tailings.

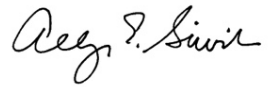
Additionally, the NM State Engineer denied in August 2025 Tulla Resources application for a water rights transfer from Santa Teresa to the Copper Flat mine site for use during operation and mine closure. There is an outstanding concern as to whether or not NM Copper Corporation has sufficient water rights even if they modify their approach to use dry stack tailings instead of wet tailings. These technical questions warrant a full discussion at a public hearing.

Gila Resources Information Project
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For the reasons outlined above, we request a public hearing on NM Copper Corporation's amended application for permit SI027RN.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allyson Siwik". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Allyson Siwik
Executive Director