

From:
The Office of The
Picuris Pueblo Governor



Picuris Pueblo
P. O. Box 127
Penasco, New Mexico
87553
(575) 587-2519
Fax: (575) 587-1071

April 12, 2018

Mr. Fernando Martinez
Division Director
Mining and Minerals Division
New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
1220 S. St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Re: Permit No. TA003E, US Hill Mica Mine
Application for a Partial Release of Financial Assurance

Dear Mr. Martinez:

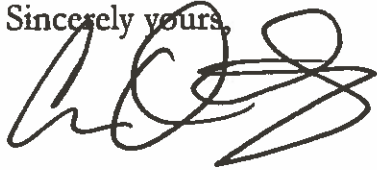
The Pueblo of Picuris, owner of the property that is the subject of the above-referenced permit, hereinafter "property," hereby requests pursuant, to NMAC § 19.10.12.1210, that you partially release the Financial Assurance for the US Hill Mica Mine, MMD Permit No. TA003RE. The Reclamation/Closeout Plan Revision dated October 26, 2009, reflected reclamation and closeout activities conducted to that date at the mine site property. I believe we will show that reclamation has been completely successful and stable by way of earthmoving and revegetation work done on the property, and there is no likelihood that any remedial work will need to be performed by MMD in those areas. In support of our position, we submit the report of Mr. Nate Downey, a qualified landscape reclamation expert, that demonstrates the success of the reclamation process. The report entitled "A Successful Restoration Project at a Former Mica Mine" was published on September 19, 2017, and is enclosed. In the application submitted in 2009 for a partial release of the financial assurance, we believed that monitoring activities could continue until 2018 for parts of the site and until 2020 for all of the site. Now, as Mr. Downey's report demonstrates, the property has achieved a degree of successful earthmoving and revegetation that warrants a release of these duties of any further monitoring requirements. It is

understood that a complete release cannot be given until 2020 for all of the site. The Picuris Pueblo requests that the Director reduce the amount of financial assurance from the present \$201,354 to \$6,300.

Pursuant to NMAC § 19.10.9.903, notice of the application has been provided by certified mail as shown in "Exhibit A," which contains a sample letter with enclosure along with a list of the persons and/or entities served on January 12, 2018. "Exhibit B" is a copy of the Affidavit of Publication from The Taos News which shows publication in the legal section, and "Exhibit C" is a copy of the Affidavit of Publication from The Taos News which shows publication at one other place calculated to give the general public the most effective notice. Both Exhibits B and C appeared in English and Spanish.

I have also enclosed the permit modification fee of \$1,000.00, pursuant to NMAC § 19.10.2.201.H.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig Quanchello". The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Craig Quanchello
Governor
Pueblo of Picuris

cc: Richard Hughes

Attachments: Report: "A Successful Restoration Project at a Former Mica Mine"
Exhibit A
Exhibit B
Exhibit C

**From:
The Office Of The
Picuris Pueblo Governor**



**Picuris Pueblo
P.O. Box 127
Peñasco, New Mexico
87553
(505) 587-2519
FAX (505) 587-1071**

January 10, 2018

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

**Aubrey Dunn
Commissioner
New Mexico State Land Office
P.O. Box 1148
Santa Fe, NM 87504**

**Re: US Hill Mine, Permit No. TA003RE
Notice of Application for Partial Financial Assurance Release**

Dear Mr. Dunn:

The Picuris Pueblo has applied to the Mining and Minerals Division (MMD), New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department for a partial release of financial assurance required for reclamation. The proposed release is for work that the Picuris Pueblo has completed at the US Hill Mine site, permit No. TZ003RE. AS a nearby property owner or interested party, you are being provided the attached copy of the public notice concerning this request for financial assurance adjustment.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the MMD at (505) 476-3414 or the attorney for Picuris Pueblo, Richard W. Hughes, at (505) 988-8004.

Sincerely

**Craig Quanchello
Governor
Picuris Pueblo**

Attachment: US Hill Public Notice

EXHIBIT A

Legal Notice

Pursuant to the New Mexico Mining Act Rules 19.12.1210 NMAC, the Picuris Pueblo has applied to the Mining and Minerals Division, New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department for a partial release of financial assurance resulting from the reclamation of the mine site. The permit in question, TA003RE, is issued to the Picuris Pueblo, and has been in effect since its approval date, December 29, 1998.

A copy of the application is available for viewing during normal business hours at:

Mining and Minerals Division
New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Dept
1220 S St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505

And also at:

Rothstein Donatelli
1215 Paseo de Peralta
Santa Fe, NM 87501

The application can also be viewed or downloaded from the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources website at:

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/MMD/MARP/MARPPermitsRevModClose.html>

This application is available for public comments, objections and a public request for hearing, as provided below.

Permittee and mailing address: Picuris Pueblo, PO Box 127, Peñasco, NM 87553

Location of real property affected: The reclamation work completed in connection with this application is on Picuris Pueblo Property, formerly the US Hill Mica Mine, located approximately 10 miles south of Ranchos de Taos. The legal description for the property is: Sections 24 & 25, Township 23 North, Range 12 East, Taos County, New Mexico.

Type of Reclamation Performed, Acres, Dates: The U.S. Hill Mine property is a formerly mined property that was closed in late 2004, and sold to the Picuris Pueblo in April, 2005. Mica mining activities over the several decades prior to closure of the mine resulted in approximately 50 acres of disturbed and impacted area, including two large open pits, a pit highwall, overburden and holder dumps, topsoil stockpiles, roads and a maintenance building. Reclamation construction activities conducted from 2006 — 2008 have addressed all previously disturbed areas and included earthmoving to reshape various mine features and backfill open pits for free-drainage, burial of process fines, main haul road removal, final grading, topsoil placement and grading, contour furrowing, seeding and mulching operations, and building removal. Reclamation has been performed on approximately 50 acres with approximately nine acres remaining as unreclaimed pit highwall, which will be left as a post-reclamation feature.

Description of Results Achieved: The property has been completely reclaimed and reclamation is stable.

Type and amount of financial assurance filed and portion sought to be released: Financial assurance has been provided on behalf of the Picuris Pueblo in the amount of \$201,354 and is in the form of a Letter of Credit from the Northern Trust Company. The Picuris Pueblo seeks to release a portion of the financial assurance to reflect the successful and stable reclamation of the property. If the change is accepted, the Picuris Pueblo proposes to replace the Letter of Credit.

Name and address to submit written comments, objections or request for public hearings: Written comments, objections or requests for public hearing with regard to the application for partial release of financial assurance shall be submitted to: Fernando Martinez, Director, Mining and Minerals Division, New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Dept, 1220 S. St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505. MMD will conduct an inspection of the site within 30 days after publication of this notice, weather permitting. Persons who have requested advance notice of the inspection shall be given notice of the inspection and may be present at the inspection as may any other interested members of the public. Within 30 days from the date of the inspection, a person with an interest that is or will be adversely affected by the proposed financial assurance release may file written objections to the proposed release with the Director at the above address and may request a public hearing. If a public hearing is held, a separate notice will be provided in accordance with 19.10.12.1210 NMAC.

<p>Aubrey Dunn Commissioner New Mexico State Land Office P.O. Box 1148 Santa Fe, NM 87504</p>	<p>Art Gebeau President Bluewater Valley Downstream Alliance P.O. Box 2038 Milan, NM 87021</p>	<p>Armando R. Macias 5270 Plumstead Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80920</p>
<p>Allyson Siwik Executive Director Gila Resources Information Project 305A N. Cooper Silver City, NM 88061</p>	<p>Administration Taos County 105 Albright Street, Suite G Taos, NM 87571</p>	<p>Bill Auby Mining Law Program Lead Bureau of Land Management P.O. Box 27115 Santa Fe, NM 87505-0115</p>
<p>Bob Estes Department of Cultural Affairs/Historic Preservation Division 407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236 Santa Fe, NM 87501</p>	<p>Brian Shields Executive Director Amigos Bravos P.O. Box 238 Taos, NM 87571</p>	<p>Donald Griego State Forestry Division, EMNRD 1220 S. St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, NM 87505</p>
<p>Derek Heyfey Manager, Environmental Affairs Chevron Mining Company P.O. Box 469 Questa, NM 87556</p>	<p>Doug Meiklejohn Executive Director NM Environmental Law Center 1405 Luisa St., Ste. 5 Santa Fe, NM 87505-0115</p>	<p>Elizabeth German Attorney at Law Brown and German 12836 Lomas Blvd. NE, Ste. G Albuquerque, NM 87112</p>
<p>Ghassan Musharrafieh Hydrology Bureau Chief Office of the State Engineer P.O. Box 25102 Santa Fe, NM 87504-5102</p>	<p>John Cornell Campaign Coordinator New Mexico Wildlife Federation 121 Cardenas Dr NE Albuquerque, NM 87108</p>	<p>Joel Lusk U.S. Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife 2105 Osuna NE Albuquerque, NM 87113</p>

<p>Juli Slivka District Contact The Wilderness Society 1660 Wynkoop Street, Suite 850 Denver, CO 80202</p>	<p>Jack Yates Minerals Manager New Mexico State Land Office P.O. Box 1148 Santa Fe, NM 87504</p>	<p>Kurt Vollbrecht Program Manager New Mexico Environment Department P.O. Box 5469 Santa Fe, NM 87502</p>
<p>Michael Linden WO Regional Liaison U.S.D.A. Forest Service 333 Broadway Blvd., SE Albuquerque, NM 87102</p>	<p>Dr. Matthew Wunder Chief, Conservation Svcs. Div. NM Department of Game & Fish P.O. Box 25112 Santa Fe, NM 87504</p>	<p>Nathan Newcomer Associate Director New Mexico Wilderness Alliance P.O. Box 25464 Albuquerque, NM 87125</p>
<p>Paul Martinez P. O. Box 2034 Los Lunas, NM 87031</p>	<p>Paul Robinson Research Director Southwest Research and Information Ctr. P.O. Box 4524 Albuquerque, NM 87196</p>	<p>Randy Logsdon State Mine Inspector Bureau of Mine Safety 801 Leroy Place Socorro, NM 87801</p>
<p>Stephen D. Ingram Attorney at Law Cavin & Ingram, P.A. 40 First Plaza, Suite 610 Albuquerque, NM 87102</p>	<p>Suzette Shije Acting Cabinet Secretary Indian Affairs Department 1220 S. St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, NM 87505-0115</p>	<p>Tim Eastep Senior Manager- Administration Freeport-McMoRan Inc. P.O. Box 571 Tyrone, NM 88065</p>
<p>Walter L. Meech President C&E Concrete P.O. Box 2547 Milan, NM 87021</p>		

AFFP

Legal 16,047_Eng/Spa

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF NM }
COUNTY OF TAOS } SS

Agnes Hernandez, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Legal Advertising Representative of the The Taos News, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Colfax County, Rio Arriba County, Taos County, NM; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following
January 18, 2018

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:

Agnes Hernandez

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 18th day of January 2018.

Shirley E. Mondragon

Shirley E. Mondragon, Notary Public, Taos County,

My commission expires: April 25, 2018

0006588 00017860

ROTHSTEIN LAW FIRM
PO BOX 8180
1215 PASEO DE PERALTA
SANTA FE, NM 87504

Legal No. 16,047.

Legal Notice

Pursuant to the New Mexico Mining Act Rules 19.12.1210 NMAC, the Picuris Pueblo has applied to the Mining and Minerals Division, New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department for a partial release of financial assurance resulting from the reclamation of the mine site. The permit in question, TA003RE, is issued to the Picuris Pueblo, and has been in effect since its approval date, December 29, 1998.

A copy of the application is available for viewing during normal business hours at: Mining and Minerals Division New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Dept 1220 S St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, NM 87505

And also at: Rothstein Donatelli 1215 Paseo de Peralta Santa Fe, NM 87501

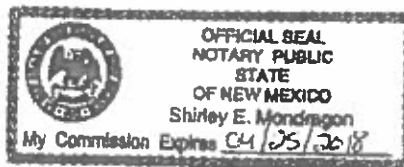
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<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/MMD/MARP/MARPPermitsRevModClose.html>

This application is available for public comments, objections and a public request for hearing, as provided below.

Permittee and mailing address: Picuris Pueblo, PO Box 127, Pefiasco, NM 87553

Location of real property affected: The reclamation work completed in connection with this application is on Picuris Pueblo Property, formerly the US Hill Mica Mine, located approximately 10 miles south of Rancho de Taos. The legal description for the property is: Sections 24 & 25, Township 23 North, Range 12 East, Taos County, New Mexico.

Type of Reclamation Performed, Acres, Dates: The U.S. Hill Mine property is a formerly mined property that was closed in late 2004, and sold to the Picuris Pueblo in April, 2005. Mica mining activities over the several decades prior to closure of the mine resulted in approximately 50 acres of disturbed and impacted area, including two large open pits, a pit highwall, overburden and holder dumps, topsoil stockpiles, roads and a maintenance building. Reclamation construction activities conducted from 2006 – 2008 have addressed all previously disturbed areas and included earthmoving to reshape various mine features and backfill open pits for free-drainage, burial of process lines, main haul road removal, final grading, topsoil placement and grading, contour furrowing, seeding and mulching operations, and building removal. Reclamation has been performed on approximately 50 acres with approximately nine acres remaining as unreclaimed pit highwall, which will be left as a post-reclamation feature.



**OF TAOS PERSONNEL
ORDINANCE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on February 13, 2018, the Town of Taos Council, meeting in regular session at the Town Council Chambers, Coronado Hall, 120 Civic Plaza Drive, 3:00 P.M., will consider adoption of the above referenced ordinance

This meeting will be a public hearing to consider the merits of the proposed ordinance. Copies of the full texts of the ordinance are available for inspection and/or copying at the Office of the Town of Taos Clerk, Town Hall, 400 Camino de La Placita during normal office hours.

The Town of Taos is ADA compliant. If you are in need of accommodations such as a reader, amplifier, qualified language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend and/or participate in the public hearing, please contact the Town Clerk 48 hours before the public hearing at 575-751-2005 during regular business hours.

Persons wishing to submit written comments may do so by sending or delivering them to the Town Clerk to be received no later than the commencement of the public meeting. Persons wishing to comment orally may do so in person at the public hearing.

Renee Lucero,
Town Clerk

(Legal No. 16,065;
Pub. Jan. 18, 2018).

**Legal No. 16,047.
Legal Notice**

Pursuant to the New Mexico Mining Act Rules 19.12.1210 NMAC, the Picuris Pueblo has applied to the Mining and Minerals Division, New Mexico Energy, Min-

Mexico.

Type of Reclamation Performed, Acres, Dates: The U.S. Hill Mine property is a formerly mined property that was closed in late 2004, and sold to the Picuris Pueblo in April, 2005. Mica mining activities over the several decades prior to closure of the mine resulted in approximately 50 acres of disturbed and impacted area, including two large open pits, a pit highwall, overburden and holder dumps, topsoil stockpiles, roads and a maintenance building. Reclamation construction activities conducted from 2006 - 2008 have addressed all previously disturbed areas and included earthmoving to reshape various mine features and backfill open pits for free-drainage, burial of process lines, main haul road removal, final grading, topsoil placement and grading, contour furrowing, seeding and mulching operations, and building removal. Reclamation has been performed on approximately 50 acres with approximately nine acres remaining as unreclaimed pit highwall, which will be left as a post-reclamation feature.

Description of Results Achieved: The property has been completely reclaimed and reclamation is stable.

Type and amount of financial assurance filed and portion sought to be released: Financial assurance has been provided on behalf of the Picuris Pueblo in the amount of \$201,354 and is in the form of a Letter of Credit from the Northern Trust Company. The Picuris Pueblo seeks to release a portion of the financial assurance to reflect the successful

México, 19.12.1210 NMAC, el Pueblo de Picuris ha aplicado a la División de Minería y Minerales, del Departamento de Energía, Minerales y Recursos Naturales del Estado de Nuevo México para una liberación parcial de garantía financiera por la recuperación de porciones del sitio de la mina. El permiso en cuestión, TA003RE, ha sido otorgado al Pueblo de Picuris, y ha tenido vigencia desde su fecha de aprobación, el 29 de diciembre de 1998.

Una copia de la aplicación está disponible para su consulta durante el horario normal en: Mining and Minerals Division New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Dept. 1220 S St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, NM 87505

Y también en: Rothstein Donatelli, LLP 1215 Paseo de Peralta Santa Fe, NM 87501

La aplicación también puede ser vista o puede ser descargada del sitio web del Departamento de Energía, Minerales y Recursos Naturales del Estado de Nuevo México: <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/MMMD/MARP/MARPPermits/RevMedClose.html>

Esta aplicación está disponible para comentarios públicos, objeciones y una pública petición de audiencia conforme a lo dispuesto a continuación.

Titular del Permiso y Dirección de Correo: Picuris Pueblo, PO Box 127, Peñasco, NM 87553.

Ubicación de la Propiedad Afectada: El trabajo de recuperación completado en conexión a esta aplicación está en la propiedad de Picuris Pueblo, anteriormente US Hill Mica Mine, ubicado aprox-

3 hectáreas restantes como muro alto sin reclamar, que quedará como una característica de recuperación post.

Descripción de los Resultados Obtenidos: El trabajo cumplió con los requisitos de reclamación y está estable.

Tipo y Cantidad de la Garantía Financiera Prestada y Parte del Tratado a ser Liberado: La garantía financiera se ha prestado en nombre del Pueblo Picuris en la cantidad de \$201,354 y se encuentra en la forma de una carta de crédito de la Northern Trust Company. El Pueblo Picuris pretende liberar una parte de la garantía financiera para reflejar la recuperación exitosa y estable de la propiedad. Si se acepta el cambio, el Picuris Pueblo propuso sustituir la carta de crédito.

Nombre y Dirección para Presentar Comentarios Escritos, Objeciones o Petición de Audiencia Pública: Los comentarios escritos, las objeciones o las peticiones de audiencia pública con respecto a la solicitud de liberación parcial de la garantía financiera se presentarán a: Fernando Martínez, Director, Mining and Minerals Division, New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Dept. 1220 S. St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505. MMD realizará una inspección del sitio dentro de 30 días después de recibir la aplicación, tiempo permitiendo a las personas que han solicitado aviso anticipado de la inspección se dará aviso de la inspección, y pueden estar presente en la inspección así como cualquier otros miembros interesados del público. Dentro de 30 días desde la fecha

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR THE CHANGE OF NAME OF MATILDA TAFOYA JOHNSON

NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE

TAKE NOTICE, That in accordance with the provisions of §40-8-1 through §40-8-3 NMSA 1978, the Petitioner MATILDA TAFOYA-JOHNSON will apply to District Judge MCELROY, on January 25, 2018 at 9:15 am, for an Order of Name Change to: MATILDA FRANCES RAELE.

/s/ Kathy Chanler
Clerk

(Legal No. 16,049;
Pub. Jan. 11, 18, 2018).

Legal No. 16,050.
STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF TAOS COLFAX UNION PROBATE JUDICIAL DISTRICT NO. D-20-CV-2018-8

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR THE CHANGE OF NAME OF JULIE ELIZABETH ANASTASOFF.

NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE

TAKE NOTICE, That in accordance with provisions of § 40-8-1 through § 10-8-3, NMSA 1978, the Petitioner JULIE ELIZABETH ANASTASOFF will apply to District Judge SARAH C. BACKUS, on FEBRUARY 8, 2018 at 8:45 AM, for an Order of Name Change to: JULIANA ANASTASOFF.

/s/ Clerk

(Legal No. 16,050;
Pub. Jan. 18, 25, 2018).

Legal No. 16,051.
VILLAGE OF TAOS SKI VALLEY TAOS, NEW MEXICO KACHINA WATER STORAGE TANK PROJECT

Sealed Bids for the Kachina Water Storage Tank Project (RFP 2018-03) will be received by the Village of Taos Ski Valley, Attention: Nancy Grabowski,

imate 20' per grade. The Work includes a 900 ft foot extension inch ductile iron waterline connecting the existing distribution system to proposed tank. It also includes installation of fiber and optical conduits protecting the water and construction approximately linear feet of grade concrete trench vault, located adjacent to the water storage tank. house isolation control valves. control valves with integrated Intex existing SCADA tern. Pressure sensor at the tank will control the tank level and filling of the from the existing Kachina booster pumps.

Bid Documents be obtained from Engineers, Heather Harris, Florida Road # Durango, CO 8 (970) 247-0724. copies may be obtained upon a refundable deposit \$200.00 for one bidding document consisting of copy of the PM Manual and one 11" x 17" Drawings. The shipping cost will depend on method selected by the Bidder. Bid documents in format may be obtained at no extra via email request heather.harris@engineers.com however, the bidder is responsible for scalability of drawings.

A large part of communication regarding this project will be conducted by e-mail. bidders must have an e-mail address to receive these notices.

A mandatory public conference will be held at 12:00 p.m. on January 11, 2018.

LEGALS

LEGALS	LEGALS	LEGALS	LEGALS	LEGALS	LEGALS
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TRUJILLO, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of this Estate. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present their claims within two (2) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented either to the undersigned Personal Representative at 1516 Meadowlark Lane, Corrales, New Mexico, 87048, or filed with the Probate Court Clerk, Taos County Courthouse, 105 Albright Street, Suite D, Taos, New Mexico, 87571.

DATED: 1/5/2018.

/S/ STEVEN TRUJILLO, Personal Representative of the Estate of Carlos Benito (CB) Trujillo, Deceased 1516 Meadowlark Lane Corrales, NM 87048

Stephen Natelson, Esq.
Natelson Law Firm
411 Camino de la Píca
Taos, NM 87571
(575) 758-4844
FAX: (575) 758-9283
Attorney for Personal Representative

(Legal No. 16,046; Pub. Jan. 18, 25, Feb. 01, 2018).

Legal No. 16,065.
Town Of Taos
Notice of Proposed Ordinance
Adoption of Ordinance
and Public Hearing

ORDINANCE 18-01

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF TAOS PERSONNEL

erals. and Natural Resources Department for a partial release of financial assurance resulting from the reclamation of the mine site. The permit in question, TA003RE, is issued to the Picuris Pueblo, and has been in effect since its approval date, December 29, 1998.

A copy of the application is available for viewing during normal business hours at: Mining and Minerals Division New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Dept 1220 S. St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, NM 87505

And also at: Rothstein Donatelli 1215 Paseo de Paralta Santa Fe, NM 87501

The application can also be viewed or downloaded from the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources website at: <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/MMD/MARPP/MARPPpermitsRevModClose.html>

This application is available for public comments, objections and a public request for hearing, as provided below.

Permittee and mailing address: Picuris Pueblo, PO Box 127, Pefiasco, NM 87583

Location of real property affected: The reclamation work completed in connection with this application is on Picuris Pueblo Property, formerly the US Hill Mica Mine, located approximately 10 miles south of Rancho de Taos. The legal description for the property is: Sections 24 & 25, Township 23 North, Range 12 East, Taos County, New

and stable reclamation of the property. If the change is accepted, the Picuris Pueblo proposes to replace the Letter of Credit.

Name and address to submit written comments, objections or request for public hearings: Written comments, objections or requests for public hearing with regard to the application for partial release of financial assurance shall be submitted to: Fernando Martinez, Director, Mining and Minerals Division, New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Dept, 1220 S. St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505. MMD will conduct an inspection of the site within 30 days after publication of this notice, weather permitting. Persons who have requested advance notice of the inspection shall be present at the inspection as may any other interested members of the public. Within 30 days from the date of the inspection, a person with an interest that is or will be adversely affected by the proposed financial assurance release may file written objections to the proposed release with the Director at the above address and may request a public hearing. If a public hearing is held, a separate notice will be provided in accordance with 19.10.12.1210 NMAC.

Aviso Legal
De conformidad con el reglamento del Acto de Minería del Estado de Nuevo

lidadamente 10 milas al Sur de Ranchos de Taos. La descripción legal de la propiedad es: Las secciones 24 & 25, Municipio de 23 norte, distancia 12 oriente, Condado de Taos, Nuevo México

El Tipo de Recuperación Realizado, los Hectares, las Fechas: La propiedad de US Hill Mine es una propiedad recientemente minada que cerró a fines del 2004 y fue vendida al Pueblo de Picuris en Abril del 2005. Las actividades mineras de mica en los últimos decenios han resultado aproximadamente en 50 hectares de área perturbada y impactada, incluyendo dos grandes abren hoyos, un hoyo mauro alto, titular de la sobrecarga y los vertederos, las existente capa superficial del suelo, carreteras y un edificio de mantenimiento. Recuperación de las actividades de construcción realizada entre 2006 - 2008 se han considerado todas las áreas previamente alteradas y incluye el movimiento de tierras para remodelar las características diferentes de minas y hoyos abiertos para la reposición de drenaje libre, el enterramiento de las desachadas finas de proceso principal, la eliminación carretera de transporte, la pendiente final, la colocación de tierra vegetal, el contorno surcando, la siembra y el mantillo de operaciones, y la eliminación del edificio. Recuperación se ha realizado en aproximadamente 50 hectares con aproximadamente nueve

de la Inspección, una persona con un interés que es o que se verán afectados negativamente por la liberación de la garantía financiera propuesta puede presentar escritas objeciones a la liberación propuesta con el Director en la dirección mencionada y puede solicitar una audiencia pública. Si se lleva a cabo una audiencia pública, se enviará un aviso separado según 19.10.12.1210 NMAC.

(Legal No. 16,047; Pub. Jan. 18, 2018).

Legal No. 16,048.
STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF TAOS
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT NO.
D-820-CV-2018-7

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR THE CHANGE OF NAME OF DELORES GALLEGOS

NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE

TAKE NOTICE, That in accordance with provisions of § 40-8-1 through § 10-8-3, NMSA 1978, the Petitioner DELORES GALLEGOS will apply to District Judge MCELROY, on JANUARY 25, 2018 at 9:10 AM, for an Order of Name Change to: DOLORES GALLEGOS.

/S/ Kathy Chanier Clerk

(Legal No. 16,048; Pub. Jan. 18, 2018).

Legal No. 16,049.
STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF TAOS
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT NO.
D-820-CV-2018-3

7 Firehouse Road Box 100, Taos Ski Valley, NM 87525 4:00 p.m. local time February 9, 2018, received after time will not be accepted. Please that overnight deliveries to the Villa Taos Ski Valley not guaranteed

All Bids that I been duly received will be opened publicly and read a All interested parties are invited to attend. The Owner reserves the right to reject or all Bids and waive irregularities in bid, and all Bid shall agree that rejection shall without liability the part of the Owner for any damage claim brought by Bidder because such rejection, shall the Bidders any recourse of kind against the Owner because of such rejections. No bid be withdrawn within a period of 60 days. The filing of any Bid response to this action shall constitute an agreement of Bidder to these conditions.


Bids will be received on a lump sum basis with schedule of payments as indicated in the Bid Form. Work is generally described as follows

The proposed Kachina Water storage tank is a 250,000 gallon below ground concrete tank. The tank will connect to the existing Villa Taos Ski Valley water distribution system. The tank is located at an approximate elevation of 10,500 feet; the rain is heavily vegetated with an approx

 **THE TAOS NEWS**

Affidavit of Publication

We hereby certify that the print insert for Picuros Pueblo was inserted into the Taos News on Jan 18, 2018 With a quantity of _____.

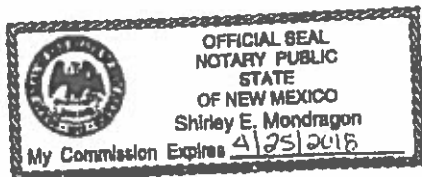
By: 
(Signature)

STEPHEN ARCHULETA
(Print Name)

Media Specialist
(Title)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

21st day of March 2018



Shirley E. Mondragon
Notary Public Signature

April 25, 2018
Commission Expires

Legal Notice

Pursuant to the New Mexico Mining Act Rules 19.12.1210 NMAC, the Picuris Pueblo has applied to the Mining and Minerals Division, New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department for a partial release of financial assurance resulting from the reclamation of the mine site. The permit in question, TA003RE, is issued to the Picuris Pueblo, and has been in effect since its approval date, December 29, 1998.

A copy of the application is available for viewing during normal business hours at:

Mining and Minerals Division
New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Dept
1220 S St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505
And also at:
Rothstein Donatelli
1215 Paseo de Peralta
Santa Fe, NM 87501

The application can also be viewed or downloaded from the New Mexico Energy, Minerals,
and

Natural Resources website at:

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/MMD/MARP/MARPPermitsRevModClose.html>

This application is available for public comments, objections and a public request for hearing, as provided below.

Permittee and mailing address: Picuris Pueblo, PO Box 127, Peñasco, NM 87553

Location of real property affected: The reclamation work completed in connection with this application is on Picuris Pueblo Property, formerly the US Hill Mica Mine, located approximately 10 miles south of Ranchos de Taos. The legal description for the property is: Sections 24 & 25, Township 23 North, Range 12 East, Taos County, New Mexico.

Type of Reclamation Performed, Acres, Dates: The U.S. Hill Mine property is a formerly mined property that was closed in late 2004, and sold to the Picuris Pueblo in April, 2005. Mica mining activities over the several decades prior to closure of the mine resulted in approximately 50 acres of disturbed and impacted area, including two large open pits, a pit highwall, overburden and holder dumps, topsoil stockpiles, roads and a maintenance building. Reclamation construction activities conducted from 2006 — 2008 have addressed all previously disturbed areas and included earthmoving to reshape various mine features and backfill open pits for free-drainage, burial of process fines, main haul road removal, final grading, topsoil placement and grading, contour furrowing, seeding and mulching operations, and building removal. Reclamation has been performed on approximately 50 acres with approximately nine acres remaining as unreclaimed pit highwall, which will be left as a post-reclamation feature.

Description of Results Achieved: The property has been completely reclaimed and reclamation is stable.

Type and amount of financial assurance filed and portion sought to be released: Financial assurance has been provided on behalf of the Picuris Pueblo in the amount of \$201,354 and is in the form of a Letter of Credit from the Northern Trust Company. The Picuris Pueblo seeks to release a portion of the financial assurance to reflect the successful and stable reclamation of the property. If the change is accepted, the Picuris Pueblo proposes to replace the Letter of Credit.

Name and address to submit written comments, objections or request for public hearings: Written comments, objections or requests for public hearing with regard to the application for partial release of financial assurance shall be submitted to: Fernando Martinez, Director, Mining and Minerals Division, New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Dept, 1220 S. St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505. MMD will conduct an inspection of the site within 30 days after publication of this notice, weather permitting. Persons who have requested advance notice of the inspection shall be given notice of the inspection and may be present at the inspection as may any other interested members of the public. Within 30 days from the date of the inspection, a person with an interest that is or will be adversely affected by the proposed financial assurance release may file written objections to the proposed release with the Director at the above address and may request a public hearing. If a public hearing is held, a separate notice will be provided in accordance with 19.10.12.1210 NMAC.

Aviso Legal:

De conformidad con el reglamento del Acto de Minería del Estado de Nuevo México, 19.12.1210 NMAC, el Pueblo de Picuris ha aplicado a la División de Minería y Minerales, del Departamento de Energía, Minerales y Recursos Naturales del Estado de Nuevo México para una liberación parcial de garantía financiera por la recuperación de porciones del sitio de la mina. El permiso en cuestión, TA003RE, ha sido otorgado al Pueblo de Picuris, y ha tenido vigencia desde su fecha de aprobación, el 29 de diciembre de 1998.

Una copia de la aplicación está disponible para su consulta durante el horario normal en:

Mining and Minerals Division
New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Dept
1220 S St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Y también en:

Rothstein Donatelli, LLP
1215 Paseo de Peralta
Santa Fe, NM 87501

La aplicación también puede ser vista o puede ser descargada del sitio web del Departamento de Energía, Minerales y Recursos Naturales del Estado de Nuevo México: <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/MMD/MARP/MARPPermitsRevModClose.html>

Esta aplicación está disponible para comentarios públicos, objeciones y una pública petición de audiencia conforme a lo dispuesto a continuación.

Titular del Permiso y Dirección de Correo: Picuris Pueblo, PO Box 127, Peñasco, NM 87553.

Ubicación de la Propiedad Afectada: El trabajo de recuperación completado en conexión a esta aplicación está en la propiedad de Picuris Pueblo, anteriormente US Hill Mica Mine, ubicado aproximadamente 10 millas al Sur de Ranchos de Taos. La descripción legal de la propiedad es: Las secciones 24 & 25, Municipio de 23 norte, distancia 12 oriente, Condado de Taos, Nuevo México

El Tipo de Recuperación Realizado, los Hectares, las Fechas: La propiedad de US Hill Mine es una propiedad recientemente minada que cerró a fines del 2004 y fue vendida al Pueblo de Picuris en Abril del 2005. Las actividades mineras de mica en los últimos decenios han resultado aproximadamente en 50 hectáreas de área perturbada y impactada, incluyendo dos grandes abren hoyos, un hoyo muro alto, titular de la sobrecarga y los vertederos, la existente capa superficial del suelo, carreteras y un edificio de mantenimiento. Recuperación de las actividades de construcción realizada entre 2006 - 2008 se han considerado todas las áreas previamente alteradas e incluye el movimiento de tierras para remodelar las características diferentes de minas y hoyos abiertos para la reposición de drenaje libre, el enterramiento de las desachadas finas de proceso principal, la eliminación carretera de transporte, la pendiente final, la colocación de tierra vegetal, el contorno surcando, la siembra y el mantillo de operaciones, y la eliminación del edificio. Recuperación se ha realizado en aproximadamente 50 hectáreas con aproximadamente nueve hectáreas restantes como muro alto sin reclamar, que quedará como una característica de recuperación post.

Descripción de los Resultados Obtenidos: El trabajo cumplió con los requisitos de reclamación y esta estable.

Tipo y Cantidad de la Garantía Financiera Prestada y Parte del Tratado a ser Liberado: La garantía financiera se ha prestado en nombre del Pueblo Picuris en la cantidad de \$201,354 y se encuentra en la forma de una carta de crédito de la Northern Trust Company. El Pueblo Picuris pretende liberar una parte de la garantía financiera para reflejar la recuperación exitosa y estable de la propiedad. Si se acepta el cambio, el Pueblo Picuris propuso sustituir la carta de crédito.

Nombre y Dirección para Presentar Comentarios Escritos Objeciones o Petición de Audiencia Pública: Los comentarios escritos, las objeciones o las peticiones de audiencia pública con respecto a la solicitud de liberación parcial de la garantía financiera se presentarán a: Fernando Martínez, Director, Mining and Minerals Division, New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Dept, 1220 S. St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505. MMD realizará una inspección del sitio dentro de 30 días después de recibir la aplicación, tiempo permitiendo. Las personas que han solicitado aviso anticipado de la inspección se dará aviso de la inspección y pueden estar presente en la inspección así como cualquier otros miembros interesados del público. Dentro de 30 días desde la fecha de la inspección, una persona con un interés que es o que se verá afectado negativamente por la liberación de la garantía financiera propuesta puede presentar escritas objeciones a la liberación propuesta con el Director en la dirección mencionada y puede solicitar una audiencia pública. Si se lleva a cabo una audiencia pública, se enviará un aviso separado según 19.10.12.1210 NMAC.

A Successful Restoration Project at a Former Mica Mine



Submitted by Nate Downey

September 19, 2017



At the request of Richard Hughes, Esq., I was asked to assess the current condition of an area of the former U.S. Hill Mica Mine located on real estate owned by Picuris Pueblo. After a recent two-and-a-half-hour, self-guided walking tour, the property appears to have been successfully restored to a state resembling a healthy, young meadow. After a short span of geological time, much of the 75 acres of formerly disturbed land will resemble the surrounding mixed conifer forest, but until that time the property will likely maintain a relatively high level of biodiversity that will be beneficial to the entire region. In general, it seems that the 2007 close-out/reclamation project was well-executed, and it appears as if the revised plan dated November 27, 2006 was well-conceived. In other words, it is highly unlikely that any future remediation work will be necessary—as long as the activities of cows and people are successfully kept to a minimum.



Figure 1

Purple asters, coreopsis, mullein, and many other species thrive in foreground, while a stand of ponderosa pine look down from an area near the highest elevation- point on the site. A large cairn can be seen at left

Throughout the site, a wide variety of native grasses, wildflowers, legumes, forbs, shrubs, and trees now thrives—even on the property’s steepest slopes and along its narrow drainages.

During the late morning and early afternoon of September 13, 2017, the following wildflower and forbs species (and/or similar varieties) were in bloom: aster (four varieties), mullein, lanceleaf coreopsis, desert sunflower, white yarrow, scarlet bugler penstemon, scarlet gilia, beebalm, Western spiderwort, vetch, clover varieties, pussy toes, horehound, fringed sage, and even a small contingent of blue flax (which is typically a June bloomer). It is worth noting that visits earlier in the growing season would likely result in the observation of many other spring-blooming and summer-blooming species and varieties.

The former mine's haul-roads, though often recognizable, were also significantly covered by nitrogen-fixing plant material, umbelliferae, and other beneficial groundcovers. The two-track nature of these roads is often reduced to a single path, or else it disappears completely.



Figure 2

An old haul-road now forms a mere single-track path.

Cattails, winecup poppy mallow, and several riparian shrub and tree varieties were apparent on and/or near the banks of the retention ponds. In addition, dams, berms, riprap, and other earthworks associated with the reclamation project's large settling ponds appear to be in a condition consistent with on-site stormwater retention and long-term success.



Figure 3a



Figure 3b

Two large setting ponds were functioning effectively and providing additional biodiversity.

As the project's 2006 revised plan states, "No tree planting is planned for the site at this time. Within a few seasons, native tree species will most likely move in on their own as site conditions continue to improve regarding seed germination and survival."¹ Today, evidence of this "active invasion"² abounds. Along the banks of the project's lively drainage channels and throughout the edges of the project's healthy meadows, native trees have begun a biological process known as succession. Ponderosa pine, Gambel oak, Rocky Mountain juniper, fir, and spruce are among the tree species that have already taken fresh root as have numerous species of woody shrubs including but not limited to chamisa, antelope bitterbrush, four-wing saltbush, three-leaf sumac, and big sage.



Figure 4a



Figure 4b

¹ Picuris Pueblos – US Hill Mica Mine Site Closeout/Reclamation Plan Revision, submitted to the Mining and Minerals Division of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department by Kuipers and Associates on November 27, 2006, p. 13.

² *Ibid.*, p. 13



Figure 4c

Pioneer evergreen species such as Rocky Mountain juniper, Gambel oak, and ponderosa are moving in quickly.

As per the revised 2006 plan, grass cover is also significant throughout the site “promoting a continuous cover of vegetation over as much of the disturbed area as possible.”³ Visible species include blue grama, Indian ricegrass, Western wheatgrass, sideoats grama, various fescues, and more. The aforementioned plan calls for a minimum of 38% vegetative cover. As the attached photos show, this objective has clearly been met. In addition, from an erosion-control perspective head cutting and other meaningful forms of erosion were not observed. It should be noted that a significant amount of cobble, rocks, and boulders cover the sight. This condition accounts for part of the success of the restoration project (due to the way in which seeds can germinate if protected by a rock mulch), but where rocks (and dense patches of rocks) are larger this condition contributes to way in which portions of the land can look unrestored in some of the attached photos—all of which have not been manipulated in any way.

Where strip mining and clear-cut logging once occurred, significant wildlife habitat and forage will now exist for the foreseeable future as long as use by domestic animals and human beings is regulated, limited, and/or restricted. Not only excrement from elk and other wild animals

³ *Ibid.*, p. 14

were observed, but a flock of wild turkeys (approximately 8 to 12 birds) dashed into the forest before one observer could get his camera out of his pocket. Many smaller birds were observed, and the holes of burrowing animals were also prevalent. One shy squirrel seemed surprised to see a two-legged creature and soon hopped out of sight.



Figure 5

Here's a good example of biodiversity in the former mine-site's upper watershed. A flock of wild turkeys was observed near the part of the meadow where it appears to meet the white cloud, above.



Figure 6a, b, c, and d Wildlife excrement was discovered in abundance

The largest threat to the long-term success of this restoration project, however, is cows. Cow excrement was discovered in several places. Although properly managed herds might improve

the biodiversity of the area over time, the health of the meadow could be quickly eradicated by overgrazing. It my understanding that the pueblo is working aggressively to combat this threat.

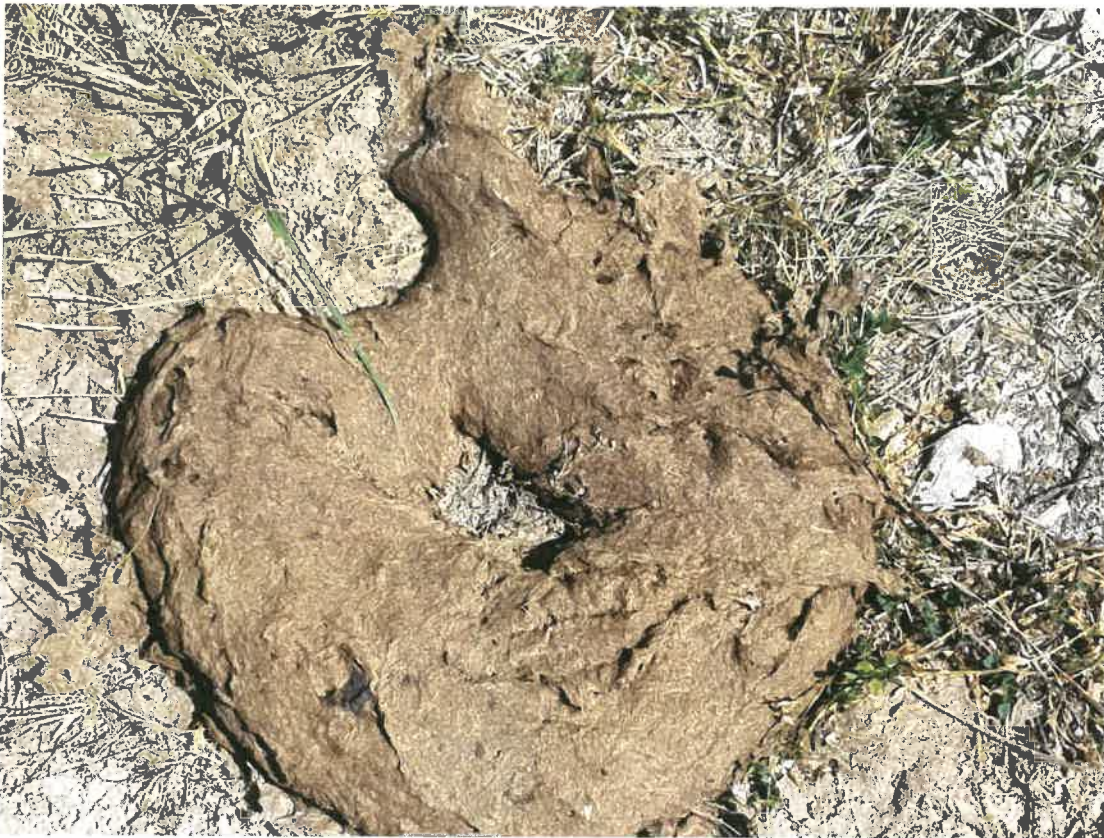


Figure 7

One of a dozen cow patties observed during a recent tour of the site

Fortunately, there were absolutely no signs of recent human use. In fact, this observer took it as a very good sign that Picuris Pueblo was not able to immediately provide a key to access the vehicular gate. In fact, the only access from the only road included a crotch-threatening lurch over barbed wire. Upon arrival at the gate, at least three or four cows appeared to be attempting to enter the area to the east of the gate, but they were clearly being prevented by the effective fence. Unfortunately, it appears that cows have recently been getting through a gap(s) in the perimeter fence. However, it may be the case that the fence has already been repaired since the cow patties observed were not fresh. At current rates, this does not appear to be damaging the property in a substantial way, but repairing any and all access through the fence should remain a high priority for the landowner.

In summary, if cows are prevented from overgrazing the existing plant material and if people are restricted from overusing and/or over-compacting the property, the site's contoured furrows will continue to absorb significant amounts of precipitation, root-systems will continue stabilize the property's slopes, and significant erosion is unlikely to occur. Currently, there is no

evidence of overgrazing, and there is no evidence of human use (much less overuse), but should the area ever be open to the public or be improperly managed it is possible that the current excellent condition of the property could deteriorate. If the landowner remains vigilant with respect to preventing overuse, no further remediation is likely to be necessary.



Figure 8

Although stable now, the presence of cow manure indicates a long-term threat to the health of the project, but a small, well-managed herd could improve the health of the soil.

Please find additional images on the following pages.



View to the South



View to the East



View to the North



Fringed sage

Pussy toes



Aster

Penstemon

Flax





Nate Downey

Based in Santa Fe, New Mexico, the author of this report is a licensed drainage-control contractor and a licensed irrigator with the State of New Mexico who has contracted to design and install countless reclamation and erosion control-projects over the course of 25 years in the ecological landscape-contracting business. He continues to be the president of Santa Fe Permaculture, since he started the landscape contracting company in 1993, and he is the president of the PermaDesign, Inc., a landscape architecture firm. Downey is also the author of **Harvest the Rain** (Sunstone Press, 2010) and the principal author or the peer-reviewed text, **Roof-Reliant Landscaping** (Office of the New Mexico State Engineer, 2008) His monthly column, "Permaculture in Practice," has appeared in The Santa Fe New Mexican since 1999. On topics relevant to this report, he has spoken at the Yale School of Forestry and Management (New Haven, CT), the International Erosion Control Association (Las Vegas, NV), the American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (Austin, TX; Portland, OR; Atlanta, GA) the Xeriscape Conference (Albuquerque, NM), Esalen Institute (Big Sur, CA), Native Plant Society (Santa Fe, NM), Humboldt State College (Arcata, CA), Soil and Water Conservation District (Mountainair, NM), Merritt College (Oakland, CA), and more. Downey graduated from St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 1991. More information at www.permadesign.com. He can be reached at nate@permadesign.com or 505-690-7939.