

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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Jerry Schoeppner, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



Via ELECTRONIC MAIL

November 21, 2022

Mr. Bruce Norquist, Facilities Manager
Rio Grande Resources Corporation
Mt. Taylor Mine
P.O. Box 1150
Grants, NM 87020

RE: Comments on the Application for Revision 22-1, Permit No. CI002RE, Mt. Taylor Mine, Rio Grande Resources Corporation

Dear Mr. Norquist:

The New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) received an application (“Application”) from Rio Grande Resources Corporation (“RGR”), dated June 13, 2022, for a revision to Permit No. CI002RE for the Mt. Taylor Mine. MMD assigned Permit Revision 22-1 to process the Application that proposes:

1. Expansion of the existing Waste Disposal Cell.
2. Updating the Closeout/Closure Plan.

MMD has deemed the Application administratively complete and requested the state agencies and applicable federal agency for review pursuant to 19.10.5.506.E NMAC. On October 6, 2022, MMD inspected the Mt. Taylor Mine with New Mexico Office of the State Engineer (“NMOSE”) staff. On November 15, 2022 MMD received comments on the Application from the NMOSE. The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (“NMDG&F”) provided comments in a letter to MMD, dated September 12, 2022. Please review the enclosed NMOSE and NMDG&F comments and respond within 60-days of receipt.

MMD is reviewing the Application and will provide comments on the near future. The New Mexico Environment Department (“NMED”) is also reviewing the Application and will provide comments that MMD will forward t to RGR.

MMD is available to meet with RGR to discuss the Application and the comments received from the NMOSE and NMDG&F.

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 216-8945 or at David.Ohori@emnrd.nm.gov.

Sincerely,

David Ohori

David Ohori, Permit Lead
Mining Act Reclamation Program (“MARP”)
Mining and Minerals Division

Enclosures

cc: Holland Shepherd, MARP Program Manager
Clint Chisler, MARP Uranium Coordinator
Anne Maurer, Mining Environmental Compliance Section, NMED GWQB
Mine File (CI002RE)