

**PERMIT NO. GR097EM  
LITTLE BURROS EXPLORATION PROJECT  
MINIMAL IMPACT EXPLORATION OPERATION**

**MINING AND MINERALS DIVISION  
ENERGY, MINERAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

Permit No. GR097EM (Permit) is issued by the Director of the Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department to:

Freeport-McMoRan Tyrone Inc. (Permittee)

Whose correct address is:

Hwy 90 South, Tyrone Mine Rd.  
Tyrone, NM 88065

for the Little Burros Project, located approximately 1 mile northeast of the Tyrone Mine in Grant County, NM, as described in Section 3 of the GR097EM Permit Application, dated July 29, 2025. The Permittee is authorized to drill up to one (1) borehole with a maximum diameter of 5.5 inches to a maximum depth or length of 3,850 feet and construct one (1) drill pad up to 100 feet in width and length on private lands to explore for marketable commodities. Total planned acreage to be disturbed by this project is one (1) acre with an additional acre covered under Financial Assurance (FA) for the purpose of unplanned disturbance contingency. A total of two (2) acres will be covered by FA for this project.

**Section 1.**                    **STATUTES AND REGULATIONS**

- A.     This Permit is issued pursuant to the New Mexico Mining Act, Chapter 69, Article 36 NMSA 1978 (Act).
- B.     This Permit is subject to all applicable regulations of the Act, New Mexico Mining Act Rules, 19.10.1 through 19.10.15 NMAC (Rules) and any other regulations which are now or hereafter in force under the Act; and all such regulations are made a part of this Permit by this reference.

**Section 2.**                    **PERMIT APPLICATION PACKAGE**

Any correspondence subsequently submitted to MMD, by the Permittee or its representatives, can be found at MMD offices within the Division's files, and is titled *Little Burros Exploration Project GR097EM* or similar.

The Permit Application Package (PAP) is comprised of the following documents:

- A.     *Subpart 3 Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application*, dated July 29, 2025 (Application).

**Permit No. GR097EM**  
**Little Burros Exploration Project**  
**Minimal Impact Exploration Operation**  
**Page 2 of 18**

- B. *Response to Comments, Little Burros Project, Minimal Impact (Part 3) Exploration Permit Application, Permit No. GR097EM, dated September 24, 2025.*
- C. Financial Assurance (FA), in the amount of \$115,350.00 was received by MMD on October 30, 2025 in the form of a Surety Bond No. CMS0352014 issued by RLI Insurance Company with associated Rider.

**Section 3.**                      **PERMIT AREA**

- A. The Permittee is authorized to conduct mineral exploration and reclamation operations only on those lands that are specifically designated and authorized within the permitted area (Permit Area). Exploration activities shall be limited to the locations identified on Figures 1, 2, and 3 of the Application, included in this Permit as Appendix B. The general vicinity of the Permit Area is located approximately 1 mile northeast of the Tyrone Mine in Grant County, NM.
- B. The Permit Area is defined as the area identified as "Permit Area" on Figure 1, 2, and 3 of the Application and Appendix B of this Permit. and totals 1.0 acres with one additional acre bonded as a contingency. Within the Permit Area, Permittee is authorized to construct the following features proposed in the PAP:
  - 1) One new access road (1,540' X 15'): 0.53 acres
  - 2) One modified existing road (575' X 5'): 0.07 acres
  - 3) One drill pad: 0.4 acres
  - 4) One drill hole: 3,850 maximum depth with a maximum diameter of 5.5 inches.
- C. Total planned acreage to be disturbed by this project is one (1) acre with an additional acre covered under Financial Assurance (FA) for the purpose of unplanned disturbance contingency. A total of two (2) acres will be covered by FA for this project per 19.10.3.302(A) NMAC.

**Section 4.**                      **FINDINGS OF FACT**

*The Permit Application Package*

- A. The PAP is complete and demonstrates that the proposed operation will meet the performance and reclamation standards and requirements of 19.10.3.302(D) NMAC.
- B. The PAP provides that the proposed operation meets the requirements of a "Minimal Impact Mining Operation", per 19.10.1.7(M)(2) and 19.10.3.302 NMAC.
- C. The Permittee has paid the initial permit application fee of \$500 as required by 19.10.2.201(F) NMAC.

**Permit No. GR097EM**  
**Little Burros Exploration Project**  
**Minimal Impact Exploration Operation**  
**Page 3 of 18**

- D. The proposed operation and reclamation, as described in the PAP and this Permit, will meet the requirements of reclamation, as identified in 19.10.1.7(R)(1) NMAC of the Rules. The reclamation plan, subject to the conditions in the Permit, demonstrates that the reclamation of the disturbed areas within the Permit Area will result in a condition that allows for the establishment of a self-sustaining ecosystem within the Permit Area that is appropriate for the life zone of the surrounding areas.
- E. The Term, Issuance, and Renewal of the Permit is governed by Subsections 19.10.4.405 NMAC. The permit term shall be one year from the date of the Director's signature on this Permit.

*Right-To-Enter / Property Access Information*

- F. The Permit does not grant or create any property rights. Nor does MMD, by issuing this Permit or otherwise, make any comment on the surface or mineral rights that the Permittee may or may not have in the area covered by the Permit; only that the Permittee has provided a statement of the basis on which the Permittee has a right to enter the property to conduct mining, exploration and reclamation. Permittee is solely responsible to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that Permittee has property rights sufficient to support the activities contemplated by the Permit.

*General Information Regarding the Permittee*

- G. The Permittee is not in violation of the terms of another permit issued by the Director or in violation of a substantial environmental law or substantive regulation at another mining operation, has not forfeited or had forfeited financial assurance in connection with another mining, reclamation or exploration permit, and has not demonstrated a pattern of willful violations of the Act, the Rules or other New Mexico environmental statutes.
- H. The Permittee has signed and certified a statement, provided within the PAP, that the Permittee agrees to comply with the requirements of this Permit, the Rules, and the Act, and allows the Director to enter the Permit Area for the purpose of conducting inspections.

*MMD Correspondence and Request for Comments to the Agencies and Tribes*

- I. MMD issued an Administratively Complete Letter to the Permittee on August 1, 2025.
- J. MMD provided the cooperating agencies (New Mexico Environment Department, Department of Game & Fish, State Forestry Division, State Historic Preservation Office, and the Office of the State Engineer) with a copy of the PAP pursuant to 19.10.3.302(G) NMAC and requested comments from the agencies on August 1, 2025.
- K. MMD provided the PAP to the following tribal entities and requested review and comment on August 4, 2025 and October 1, 2025: Acoma Pueblo, Fort Sill Apache Tribe, Hopi

**Permit No. GR097EM**  
**Little Burros Exploration Project**  
**Minimal Impact Exploration Operation**  
**Page 4 of 18**

Tribe, Isleta Pueblo, Mescalero Apache Tribe, Navajo Nation, White Mountain Apache Tribe, and Zuni Pueblo. The White Mountain Apache Tribe responded “No Adverse Effect” on August 12, 2025.

- L. MMD provided the Permittee with comments provided by the cooperating agencies and tribal entities on September 5, 2025.
- M. MMD issued a Technically Complete Letter to the Permittee on September 30, 2025.

*Financial Assurance*

- N. The Permittee has provided FA, in accordance with 19.10.12.1201(A) NMAC, in the amount of \$115,350.00. FA has been provided by the Permittee in the form of a Surety Bond No. CMS0352014 issued by the RLI Insurance Company on October 07, 2025, with associated Rider issued on October 7, 2025.

**Section 5.**                      **COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS**

- A. This Permit is issued pursuant to the Act and Rules. Permittee may be required to comply with other Federal, State, County or Local laws or ordinances before or while undertaking the activity that is the subject of this Permit. MMD does not, by issuing this Permit or otherwise, make any comment on Permittee’s compliance with such other laws. It is Permittee’s sole responsibility to investigate and comply with the requirements of such other laws.
- B. The Permit does not grant or create any water rights. Nor does MMD, by issuing this Permit or otherwise, make any comment on the water rights that the Permittee may or may not have available for use in the area covered by the Permit. Permittee is solely responsible and obligated to comply with all state and federal laws related to water rights sufficient to support the activities contemplated by the Permit.

**Section 6.**                      **AGENCY RIGHT OF ENTRY**

- A. The Permittee shall allow the authorized representatives of the Director, without advanced notice, upon presentation of appropriate credentials, and without delay:
  - 1) To enter upon, or through, any mineral exploration or reclamation operation at any time, as provided for in 19.10.3.302(I)(3) NMAC, for the purpose of conducting inspections during exploration, and reclamation, and to determine if the Permittee is in compliance with the permit requirements and conditions; and
  - 2) At reasonable times, and without delay, have access to and copies of any records associated with permitting and compliance required by the Act, Rules or the Permit.

**Permit No. GR097EM**  
**Little Burros Exploration Project**  
**Minimal Impact Exploration Operation**  
**Page 5 of 18**

**Section 7.**                    **PERMIT COVERAGE**

- A.      This Permit shall be binding on any person or persons conducting mining, exploration and reclamation operations under this Permit.

**Section 8.**                    **ENVIRONMENTAL COVERAGE**

- A.      The Permittee shall take all necessary steps to minimize any adverse impact to the environment or public health and safety resulting from noncompliance with any term or condition of the Permit, the Rules or the Act.

**Section 9.**                    **COMPLIANCE WITH THE PERMIT APPLICATION PACKAGE**

- A.      The Permittee shall conduct mining, exploration drilling and reclamation operations only as described in the approved PAP and any other modifications approved by the Director, pursuant to 19.10.4.406 NMAC. The Permittee shall comply with any and all conditions that are incorporated in the PAP and this Permit.
- B.      Where the PAP is ambiguous or in apparent conflict with the provisions outlined in this Permit, the language of this Permit will supersede the PAP.

**Section 10.**                    **GENERAL OBLIGATIONS AND CONDITIONS**

*Description of Project/Authorized Disturbances*

- A.      The Permittee is authorized to drill one (1) borehole using air rotary and mud/fluid drilling techniques identified as IP-24-01 in the PAP, with a maximum diameter of 5.5 inches in nominal outside diameter, up to a total depth of 3,850 feet in length or deep. Reclamation of the disturbed areas shall be initiated as soon as possible and completed in accordance with the schedule in this Permit.
- B.      The Permittee is authorized to create no more than one (1) drill pad surface disturbance areas, no greater than one hundred feet wide by one hundred feet long (100'W X 100'L),. All mud pits, overflow pits, equipment, and related vehicles shall be contained within the boundaries of the drill pads.
- C.      Access to the borehole location shall consist of new road construction up to 15 feet wide. The PAP proposes approximately 1,540 feet of new road construction and 575 feet of widening existing roads but this number can be exceeded up to a total disturbance of 2 acres including all site disturbances as needed. The Permittee shall minimize any new surface disturbance. To the extent possible, Permittee shall avoid removing or damaging standing live or dead trees and woody vegetation during drill pad set-up and construction, as well as during mobilization of equipment into and out of the Permit Area.

**Permit No. GR097EM**  
**Little Burros Exploration Project**  
**Minimal Impact Exploration Operation**  
**Page 6 of 18**

- D. The Permittee is authorized to disturb no more than 2.0 acres of total cumulative disturbance (including any disturbance created during reclamation) within the Permit Area as defined in 19.10.3.302(A) NMAC. Reclamation activities are considered disturbance and shall be restricted to authorized areas. The Permittee shall restrict surface disturbance to authorized areas, including traffic associated with vehicle travel, parking, and turnaround.

*Best Management Practices to be Performed*

- E. Perform all work, when practicable, in the dry season and postpone work during wet and muddy conditions.
- F. Permittee shall leave all disturbances in a manner that is stable, both long-term and short-term, and non-hazardous to humans and wildlife. The preliminary reclamation plan for the site is generally described in Section 7 of the Application for GR097EM and within the PAP and this Permit.
- G. The Permittee shall implement erosion-control measures, or Best Management Practices (BMP's), in a manner that prevents direct impacts to surface water and ephemeral watercourses that are designed, constructed and maintained using professionally recognized standards (e.g., Natural Resource Conservation Service Standards, or the BLM *Gold Book*) for surface disturbances during the exploration project and reclamation activities as needed for erosion control, spill prevention and the avoidance or damage to ephemeral watercourses in the area. Placement of water bar structures or other appropriate measures should be taken to reduce head-cutting adjacent to roads and to prevent roadways from channelizing surface flow.
- H. Erosion control measures or any other BMP's that are damaged or ineffective shall be repaired, replaced or redesigned, as necessary, within 24 hours, or as soon as reasonably possible, following discovery of damages. The Permittee shall commit to using a variety of erosion-control measures, as needed, if erosion control problems develop.
- I. Where feasible, a minimum setback of 100 feet away from any watercourse within the Permit Area is recommended. (*Watercourse means any channel having definable beds and banks capable of conducting generally confined runoff from adjacent lands. During floods water may leave the confining beds and banks but under normal flows water is confined within the channel. A watercourse may be perennial, intermittent, or ephemeral.*)
- J. No drilling or storage of fuels or chemicals shall take place within any jurisdictional watercourse that is in the Permit Area. No excavation or filling shall take place within any jurisdictional watercourse.
- K. Appropriate spill clean-up materials, such as absorbent pads, shall be available on-site at all times during road construction, site preparations, and drilling activities to address

**Permit No. GR097EM**  
**Little Burros Exploration Project**  
**Minimal Impact Exploration Operation**  
**Page 7 of 18**

potential spills. Drop cloths or plastic tarps will be placed and secured under rigs while drilling, in addition to any other immobilized, staged, or temporarily stored equipment parked for durations extending longer than 48 hours, to contain any spill or leakage from the drill rig and any other related equipment.

- L. The Permittee shall report all spills immediately to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) as required by the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission regulations 20.6.2.1203 NMAC.
- M. Any water, drill cuttings, mud and drilling additives, and/or fluids produced from the exploration borehole shall be contained entirely within the Permit Area at all times. Mud pits, disposal pits, sumps, or above ground tanks shall be sized to contain the calculated volume of drill cuttings and all drilling fluids and any produced water, while still providing a substantial freeboard or emergency storage capacity.
- N. All heavy equipment to be used within the Permit Area shall be thoroughly pressure washed and/or steam cleaned prior to introducing any equipment into the Permit Area in order to help prevent the introduction of non-native species to the Permit Area. This cleaning shall remove all soil, seed, vegetative matter or other debris that could contain or hold seed or plant parts. Any heavy equipment that subsequently operates outside this Permit Area shall be treated the same as during the initial mobilization onto the Permit Area. Equipment shall be considered free of soil, seed and plant debris when a visual inspection does not detect such material.
- O. The Permittee shall maintain current MSDS documentation for drilling additives, and any other chemicals to be used throughout the duration of the operation including exploration and reclamation activities and made available for review upon request.

*Cultural and Paleontological Resource Preservation Requirements*

- P. The Permittee is obligated to comply with procedures established in Section 18-6-11.2 NMSA 1978 of the Cultural Properties Act, to protect such cultural items as human remains, associated funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony discovered inadvertently during the course of project implementation. In the event that any of the cultural items listed above are discovered during the course of project work, the Permittee shall immediately halt the disturbance and contact the Office of the Medical Investigator and the local law enforcement agency pursuant to Section 18-6-11.2 NMSA 1978 of the Cultural Properties Act and the Department of Cultural Affairs within 24 hours for instructions. The Permittee shall be held responsible for protecting, evaluating, reporting, excavating, treating, and disposing of these cultural items according to the procedures established by the Department of Cultural Affairs in consultation with Indian Tribes.

**Permit No. GR097EM**  
**Little Burros Exploration Project**  
**Minimal Impact Exploration Operation**  
**Page 8 of 18**

*Reclamation and Revegetation Requirements*

- Q. Reclamation of disturbed areas shall occur concurrently, or directly after the completion of exploration operations as weather and field conditions allow. Pursuant to 19.10.3.302(K) NMAC, all lands, including overland access routes or terrain damaged in gaining access to existing mine structures, or lands where vegetation is substantially disturbed or whose natural state has been substantially disturbed as a result of the exploration activities, shall be restored as nearly as possible to their original condition and reseeded utilizing an appropriately certified noxious weed-free, pure live seed mixture of native and appropriate species beneficial to wildlife. The seed mixture, application rate, and recommended planting methodology are listed in Appendix A to this document. Seed mixture may be modified with MMD approval.
- R. Salvaged topsoil material that is suitable as a plant growth medium, shall be spread over the surface of the drill areas, roads, and other disturbed areas, including any other heavily compacted areas, then raked prior to seeding to prepare a suitable seedbed for seed germination and root growth. The seed mixture should be broadcast sown immediately after seedbed preparation has been completed and while the soil surface is still friable. After the seed mix has been sown, the soil shall be raked into the surface using hand tools to cover the seed. Reclaimed areas not seeded before or during the summer shall be seeded in late fall to maximize the probability of successful revegetation.
- S. Following the revegetation and reclamation activities, monitoring shall be conducted by the Permittee to assure successful establishment of vegetation and stabilization of the site. Revegetated areas that have not become established by the end of the growing season shall be mitigated by reseeding, mulching, grading, and/or application of waterbars, or other BMP's, to prevent erosion and site degradation.
- T. The Permittee shall notify MMD at least 30 days prior to initiating any reclamation approved pursuant to this Permit. The site will be considered reclaimed and eligible for release of FA, once the following criteria have been met:
- 1) The Permittee has shown that an established self-sustaining vegetative cover on disturbed areas can be achieved.
  - 2) No significant erosion is evident on reclaimed areas.
  - 3) All drill holes have been plugged and abandoned as described in this Permit and the PAP.
- U. All lands to be disturbed shall be addressed under the performance and reclamation standards and requirements of 19.10.3.302 NMAC and in accordance with the reclamation



**Permit No. GR097EM**  
**Little Burros Exploration Project**  
**Minimal Impact Exploration Operation**  
**Page 9 of 18**

plan provided in the PAP and this Permit. The Permittee is obligated to complete reclamation of all disturbed areas upon completion of exploration activities.

*Borehole and /or Well Abandonment*

- V. Each dry borehole shall be plugged using neat cement slurry, mixed according to the manufacturer's recommendation, emplaced with a tremie pipe from total depth to within 2 feet of the original ground surface, followed by 2 feet of topsoil/topdressing. The hole shall be permanently plugged and abandoned as soon as is practical after drilling is complete. If a water-bearing stratum is encountered, the borehole shall be plugged before the drill rig is removed from the site and must satisfy the requirements of the NMOSE and the NMED for proper plugging of such holes.

If groundwater is encountered, the boreholes shall be considered wells and shall be permitted and sealed pursuant to the NMOSE's *Rules and Regulations Governing Well Driller Licensing, Construction, Repair, and Plugging of Wells*, 19.27.4 NMAC (see 19.27.4.36, *Requirements for Mine Drill Holes that Encounter Water*). An NMOSE-approved *Well Plugging Plan of Operations* shall be provided to MMD following the approval of this Permit or within 30 days after groundwater was inadvertently or unexpectedly encountered during drilling activities. The approved sealant shall comply with all applicable specifications of *ASTM D5299-99*. The Permittee shall ensure that the correct ratio of solids to water is used during the preparation of the approved sealant. Well plugging records shall be sufficiently detailed to document plugging methodology, the proper constitution of approved sealant, and an adequate volume of sealant was used to meet theoretical volumes of plugged intervals shall be provided to NMOSE and copied to MMD. Additionally, the Permittee is required to consult with OSE personnel prior to plugging wet boreholes.

For borehole reclamation, the Permittee shall submit copies of the drill hole abandonment records (NMOSE Form WD-11) to MMD, to include an affidavit signed by a licensed, bonded driller, engineer, or project geologist, attesting to the fact that the drill holes have been plugged and abandoned according to the requirements of this Permit.

At the time of termination of the Permit and full FA release, NMOSE forms WD-08 and WD-11 must be submitted to MMD with all applicable NMOSE approvals completed.

All required NMOSE Permits for this project shall be obtained prior to starting the exploration project.

*Changes, Modifications, or Revisions to the Permit*

- W. Any changes, modifications or amendments to the approved Permit shall be approved prior to implementation pursuant to 19.10.3.302(J).

**Permit No. GR097EM**  
**Little Burros Exploration Project**  
**Minimal Impact Exploration Operation**  
**Page 10 of 18**

*Financial Assurance*

- X. The Permittee shall maintain FA, after approval of this Permit, in the amount of \$115,350.00 in an approved FA instrument, and until released, pursuant to 19.10.12 NMAC, and sufficient to cover third-party costs of sealing, subsurface plugging and surface reclamation of one (1) borehole for a total borehole depth of up to 3,850 feet, along with any associated access roads and drill pads to be reclaimed.

*Project Completion Timeline/Termination Report Requirements*

- Y. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Permit, the Permittee shall plug and abandon all exploratory boreholes, including all wells, within one (1) year of date of permit issuance.
- Z. The Permittee shall submit a termination report, pursuant to 19.10.4.407 NMAC, at the conclusion of the exploration operation, unless the Permittee has applied for renewal of the exploration permit or applied for a mining operation permit. The termination report shall contain the required information in 19.10.4.407 NMAC, and:
- 1) A description of the reclamation measures utilized by the Permittee.
  - 2) Evidence of the seed mix (seed tags from bags) and its application rate utilized by the Permittee.
  - 3) Photographs of the reclaimed areas, including any BMP's utilized by the Permittee during exploration.
  - 4) Global positioning system (GPS) coordinates for the drill holes, and well locations constructed under this Permit.
  - 5) Copies of the drill hole abandonment and plugging records and forms that includes an affidavit signed by a certified driller, engineer, or project geologist attesting to the fact that the holes have been plugged and abandoned according to the requirements of this permit.

**Section 11.**                    **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- A. The Director concludes the project meets the requirements of a "Minimal Impact Mining Operation" addressed in 19.10.1.7(M)(2) NMAC. The operation authorized by this Permit is eligible as a minimal impact operation, and the Permittee is authorized to operate a minimal impact exploration operation, pursuant to 19.10.1.7(M)(2) NMAC and 19.10.3.302(A) NMAC. The Director concludes the operation is authorized by this Permit to operate a minimal impact exploration operation, pursuant to requirements outlined in 19.10.1.7(M)(2) NMAC and 19.10.3.302(A) NMAC.

**Permit No. GR097EM**  
**Little Burros Exploration Project**  
**Minimal Impact Exploration Operation**  
**Page 11 of 18**

- B. The PAP is complete, accurate and complies with the requirements of the Act and 19.10.3.302 NMAC.
- C. The Director has jurisdiction over the Permittee and the subject matter of this Permit and process.
- D. The Permittee is permitted to conduct exploration and reclamation operations within the Permit Area upon the condition that the Permittee complies with the requirements of the Rules, Act, and this Permit, and upon the submission of such termination reports and fees as may be required under 19.10.3 NMAC and 19.10.2 NMAC.

Permit No. GR097EM  
Little Burros Exploration Project  
Minimal Impact Exploration Operation  
Page 12 of 18

CERTIFICATION

I certify that I have read, understand and will comply with the requirements of the Permit. I further certify that I am not in violation of the Act or Rules. I also agree to comply with the performance and reclamation standards and requirements of the Permit, the Rules, and the Act, and allow the Director to enter the Permit Area without delay for the purpose of conducting inspections during exploration and reclamation.

Ronald M. Guadalupe

Authorized Representative of the Permittee

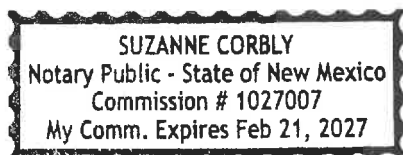
Tyrone Hydromet Manager

Title

Freeport - McMoran Tyrone Inc.

Company Name

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of December, 2025



Suzanne Corbly  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires

February 21, 2027

**Permit No. GR097EM**  
**Little Burros Exploration Project**  
**Minimal Impact Exploration Operation**  
**Page 13 of 18**

**ORDER**

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Permit No. GR097EM is approved. Freeport-McMoRan Tyrone Inc. is authorized to conduct mining, exploration drilling and reclamation operations at the Little Burros Exploration Project, Permit No. GR097EM, in Grant County, New Mexico. The Permit may not be transferred without approval by the Director. The Permit is subject to all conditions set out in the Director's Findings of Fact, Conditions and Conclusions of Law.

By Order of the Director, Mining and Minerals Division, Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, of the State of New Mexico.

By: *Erin McCullough*  
Erin McCullough, Director  
Mining and Minerals Division  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Date: December 8, 2025

**Permit No. GR097EM**  
**Little Burros Exploration Project**  
**Minimal Impact Exploration Operation**  
**Page 14 of 18**

**Appendix A:**

**Recommended Seed Mix & Planting Methodology**

Soil in disturbed areas to be reclaimed should be treated to reduce compaction (i.e. limit vehicle traffic). Even very minimal use of roads greatly increases compaction. Soil structure compaction reduces available soil air and water; this reduction kills soil organisms and decreases success rate of re-vegetation.

Seed-bed preparation needs to be done to provide a hospitable environment for germinating seed by breaking up impermeable soil layers that have formed and increasing void spaces for air and water. The ground should be roughed-up prior to planting by raking, harrowing, or other methods.

Seed should be broadcast with a "cyclone" hand seeder or similar broadcast seeder to facilitate an even spread of seed. Hydro-mulching/seeding can also be performed just as long as the soil is prepared prior to application.

After seed is broadcast, the ground should be raked or dragged, to help bury seed and improve soil contact and provide texture. Next, mulch should be placed to prevent loss of moisture and seed to wind.

Mulching is recommended on all seeding projects and should be applied within one day following seeding. Mulch shall be free of noxious weeds and weed seed and other diseased plant residues. Rotten or molded hay is not acceptable as mulch. Mulching should be done using one of these following methods:

- A. weed-free straw (2 tons/Ac)
- B. wood residues (sawdust, wood chips, bark (2 tons/Ac)
- C. hydro-mulching (1,500 lb./Ac)
- D. composted manure (5 tons/Ac)
- E. excelsior blanket
- F. straw jute

Straw mulch is not recommended if livestock potentially have access to the area. Livestock should be temporarily fenced-out of any seeded area, if possible, as they will otherwise reduce the possibility of successful re-vegetation. The probability of successful seeding will be considerably increased if fencing remains until reclamation is stable, and plants have grown well enough to withstand grazing. Stabilization would occur after a minimum of three full summer growing seasons after planting. A soil-stabilizer or tackifier may be applied as an overspray after seed and mulch are in place. This tack should be at a sufficient rate to prevent mulch moving due to wind or rain. The following is the link to certified noxious weed-free mulch providers:

<http://aces.nmsu.edu/ces/seedcert/certified-weed-free-fora.html>

Notify MMD after seeding and mulching has been completed.

**Permit No. GR097EM**  
**Little Burros Exploration Project**  
**Minimal Impact Exploration Operation**  
**Page 15 of 18**

The seed mix below is designed for application prior to the summer rains and the seeding should be completed in mid-June to early July. Alternative seed mixtures planned for application in a specific seeding season shall be submitted to MMD for review and approval prior to seed purchase. **The rates included in Table 1 are drilled seeding rates.** If broadcast seeding, double the PLS.

**Table 1. Proposed species list for the seed mix**

<b>Common name</b>	<b>PLS<sup>ab</sup> (lb/acre)</b>
Blue Grama	1.0
Sideoats grama	2.0
Sand Dropseed	0.25
Indian Ricegrass	2.0
Purple Prairie Clover	1.0
Scarlet Globemallow	1.0

<sup>a</sup>Seed mix and rates are subject to change based on future investigations and availability.

<sup>b</sup>Rate is in pounds of pure live seed (PLS) per acre; Substitutions may change seeding rates. NA = not applicable. ND= not determined.

A list of seed vendors can be found at <https://appliedeco.org/restoration/nativeseednetwork/find-seed/>

## SITE MAPS

**Figure 1**



## Little Burros Exploration - Property Ownership

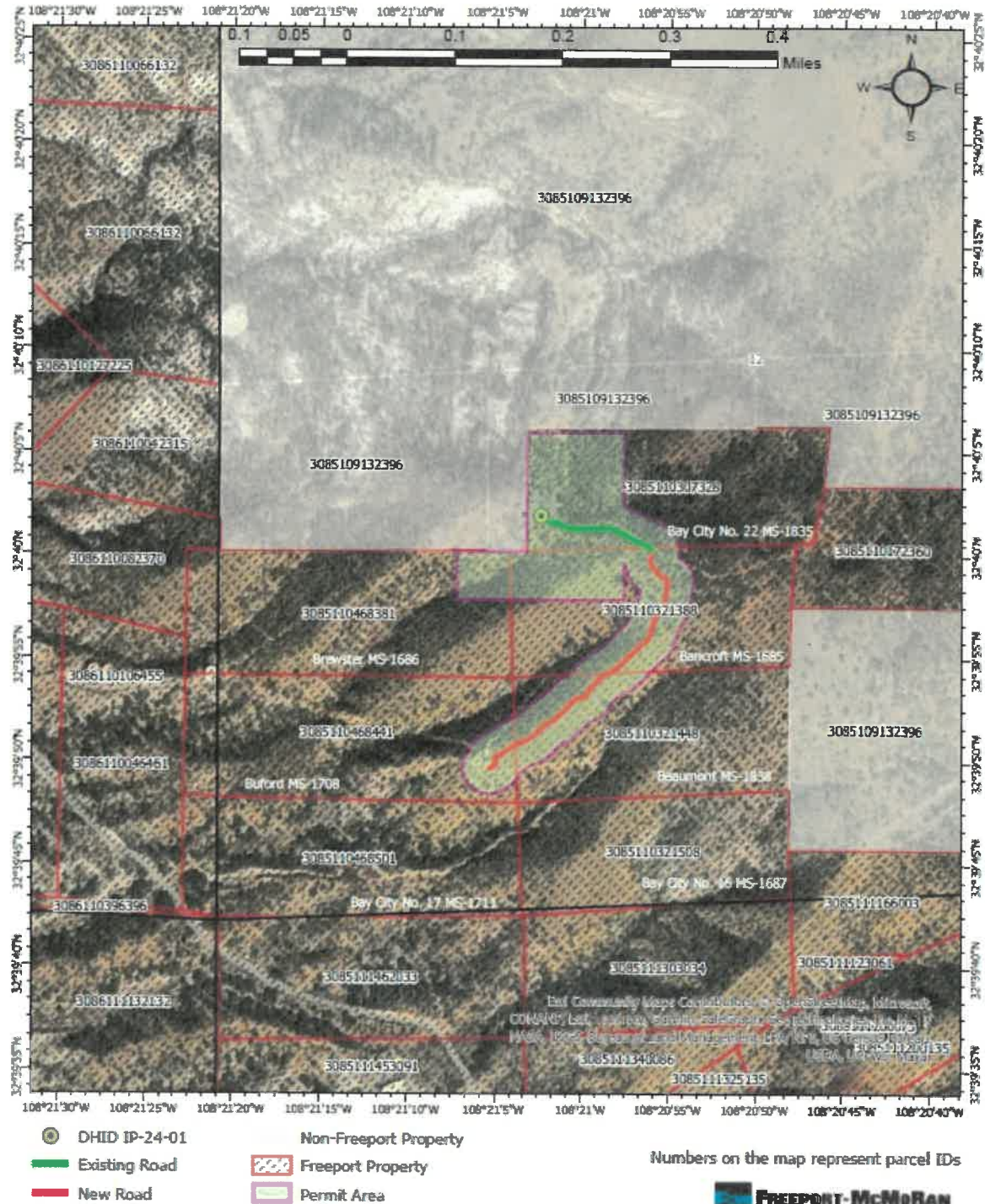


Figure 2

# Little Burros Exploration Project

NE Of Tyrone Mine Operations, NM

