

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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Jerry Schoeppner, PG, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



Via ELECTRONIC MAIL

July 18, 2022

Mr. Eric Jantz, Senior Staff Attorney
New Mexico Environmental Law Center
1405 Luisa St., Suite 5
Santa Fe, NM 87505

**RE: Approval of Request for Public Hearing – Mt. Taylor Mine, Revision 22-1,
Permit No. CI002RE**

Dear Mr. Jantz:

The New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) received your letter, dated July 14, 2022, on behalf of the Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environment (“MASE”) and Amigos Bravos, requesting a public hearing on the application for a revision to Permit No. CI002RE for the Disposal Cell Expansion and Updated Closeout Plan for the Mt. Taylor Mine, operated by Rio Grande Resources Corporation (“RGR”). The Mt. Taylor Mine is located in Cibola County, New Mexico.

MMD has assigned Permit Revision 22-1 to process the application. We have determined your request for public hearing as timely pursuant to 19.10.9.904.A NMAC. MMD shall conduct a public hearing on the application for Revision 22-1 to Permit No. CI002RE; however, a date for the public hearing has not yet been set. MMD will advertise the date, time, and location of the public hearing pursuant to 19.10.9.904.B NMAC.

We thank you for the comments in your letter. Written comments may be submitted up to the close of the hearing record, and you are welcome to submit further details regarding your concerns. Please contact me at 505-467-9671, or David Ohoi, of my staff, at David.ohori@state.nm.us or 505-216-8945, with any questions.

Sincerely,


Jerry Schoeppner,
Director, Mining and Minerals Division

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cc: Bruce Norquist, Facilities Manager, Mt. Taylor Mine
Holland Shepherd, Program Manager, Mining Act Reclamation Program
("MARF")
David Ogori, Permit Lead, MARF
Anne Maurer, Mining Act Team Leader, Mining Environmental Compliance
Section ("MECS"), New Mexico Environment Department ("NMED"), Ground
Water Quality Bureau ("GWQB")
Joseph Fox, Acting Program Manager, MECS NMED GWQB
Mine File (CI002RE)