

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

---

**Susana Martinez**  
Governor

**Ken McQueen**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Matthias Sayer**  
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

**Fernando Martinez, Director**  
Mining and Minerals Division



July 18, 2018

**RE: Notice of Public Hearing for Copper Flat Mine, Sierra County, New Mexico**

The Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) will hold a public hearing on the Permit Application Package and Draft Environmental Evaluation in consideration of issuing a new mine permit for the Copper Flat Mine, Sierra County, New Mexico. The purpose of the hearing is to give the public an opportunity to learn about, and comment on, the requested New Mining Operation permit for the Copper Flat Mine. Representatives of both the MMD and New Mexico Copper Corporation (“NMCC”) will be in attendance. The public notice for the public hearing is enclosed with this letter.

The public hearing is scheduled for **August 21 and 22, 2018 from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm on both days.**

The location of the public hearing will be at the **Truth or Consequences Civic Center/Ralph Edwards Auditorium, 400 West Fourth, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, 87901.**

Comments regarding NMCC’s request for a New Mining Operation permit for the Copper Flat Mine may be submitted to the Director of MMD at the following address:

Director  
Mining and Minerals Division  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department  
1220 S. St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Or by email at: [EMNRD-MMD.Director@state.nm.us](mailto:EMNRD-MMD.Director@state.nm.us)

Written comments must be received prior to the close of the hearing record set during the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted outside of the hearing process, or at the hearing.

The Permit Application Package and Draft Environmental Evaluation are available for review at the MMD Office in Santa Fe, NM, and may also be viewed on the MMD website at: <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/mmd/MARP/PermitSI027RN.html>

Enclosure: Public Notice for Public Hearing on Copper Flat Mine

**Public Notice:  
Copper Flat Mine Public Hearing**

The New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) hereby gives notice of a public hearing on the Permit Application Package and Draft Environmental Evaluation in consideration of issuing a new mine permit for the Copper Flat Mine, Sierra County, New Mexico. The applicant for the permit is New Mexico Copper Corporation (“NMCC”), a wholly owned subsidiary of THEMAC Resources Group Limited. The Copper Flat Mine is located in Sierra County, approximately 30 miles southwest of Truth or Consequences and 5 miles northeast of Hillsboro.

Mine Description

The mine permit area is approximately 2,190 acres in size and will utilize Bureau of Land Management public land and private property. NMCC has applied for a New Mining Operation permit under the New Mexico Mining Act to extract approximately 125 million tons of copper ore during the anticipated 12-year lifespan of the mine. Annually, the mining operation will process approximately 11 million tons of copper ore through an on-site mill for extraction of copper, molybdenum, gold, and other metals. The ore body will be mined by conventional truck and shovel open pit methods. The mine will consist of a 900 foot deep open pit, crushers/grinders, sulfide flotation mill/concentrator, a lined 600 acre tailing impoundment, a 45 million ton waste rock disposal area, reclamation material stockpiles, low-grade ore stockpile, equipment laydown yard, fuel station, warehouses, and other ancillary facilities needed to operate the mine. Copper, molybdenum and coarse gold concentrates will be shipped in bulk form by truck for further off-site processing.

Public Hearing

The purpose of the public hearing is to give the public an opportunity to learn about and comment on the requested New Mining Operation permit for the Copper Flat Mine. A hearing officer will conduct the hearing on behalf of MMD and, pursuant to NM Mining Act Rule 19.10.9.905 NMAC, will have authority to take all measures necessary for the maintenance of order and decorum, and for the efficient, fair and impartial presentation of the requested New Mining Operation permit for the Copper Flat Mine and the receiving of public comments. The public hearing is not adjudicatory and no final decisions regarding the application will be made at the public hearing, nor will the hearing officer provide any recommendations to the MMD at the conclusion of the hearing. Rather, the hearing officer will provide MMD with a summary report that will summarize both technical and non-technical comments taken at the hearing so that the MMD Director may consider social, economic, technical and other issues that are raised at the public hearing. Any interested persons may provide verbal or written comments at the public hearing.

Representatives NMCC will provide a presentation of the requested New Mining Operation permit for the Copper Flat Mine. Afterwards, opportunity for public comments will be offered. Any interested person may testify at the hearing. A person who wants to present testimony should indicate this desire on the sign-in sheet before the hearing begins. Any person who testifies at the hearing is subject to cross-examination on the subject matter of his direct testimony. Any person attending the hearing is entitled to conduct such cross-examination as may be required for full disclosure of matters at issue in the hearing.

The hearing officer may limit cross-examination to avoid harassment, intimidation, needless expenditure of time or undue repetition. All testimony will be taken under oath or affirmation.

Public Hearing Details

The public hearing is scheduled **for August 21 and 22, 2018, from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm on both days.**

The location of the public hearing will be at the **Truth or Consequences Civic Center/Ralph Edwards Auditorium, 400 West Fourth, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, 87901.**

The Permit Application Package and Draft Environmental Evaluation for the Copper Flat Mine are available for review at the MMD Office in Santa Fe, NM, and may also be viewed on the MMD website at <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/mmd/MARP/PermitSI027RN.html>

Comments regarding NMCC's application for a New Mining Operation permit for the Copper Flat Mine may be submitted to the MMD Director at the following address:

Director  
Mining and Minerals Division  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department  
1220 S. St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Or by email at: [EMNRD-MMD.Director@state.nm.us](mailto:EMNRD-MMD.Director@state.nm.us)

Any interested party may submit written comments regarding the application to the MMD Director. Written comments must be received by the MMD Director prior to the close of the hearing record set during the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted outside of the hearing process or at the hearing.

**Noticia Pública:**  
**Audiencia Pública de Mina Copper Flat**

El Departamento de Energía, Minerales y Recursos Naturales de Nuevo México, División de Minería y Minerales ("MMD") da aviso de una audiencia pública sobre el Paquete de Solicitud de Permiso y el Borrador de Evaluación Ambiental en consideración de emitir un nuevo permiso de mina para la Mina Copper Flat en el Condado de Sierra, Nuevo México. El solicitante del permiso es New Mexico Copper Corporation ("NMCC"), una subsidiaria de THEMAC Resources Group Limited. La Mina Copper Flat está ubicada en el Condado de Sierra, aproximadamente a 30 millas al sudoeste de Truth or Consequences y 5 millas al noreste de Hillsboro.

Descripción de la Mina

El área de permiso de la mina tiene un tamaño aproximado de 2,190 acres y utilizará terrenos públicos y propiedad privada de la Oficina de Administración de Tierras ("BLM"). NMCC ha solicitado un permiso de Nueva Operación Minera bajo la Ley de Minería de Nuevo México para extraer aproximadamente 125 millones de toneladas de mineral de cobre durante la expectativa de vida de la mina de 12 años. Anualmente, la operación minera procesará aproximadamente 11 millones de toneladas de mineral de cobre a través de un molino in situ para la extracción de cobre, molibdeno, oro y otros metales. El yacimiento del mineral será extraído mediante métodos convencionales de camiones y palas a cielo abierto. La mina constará una excavación de un tajo de 900 pies de profundidad, trituradoras/amoladoras, molino/concentrador de flotación de sulfuro, un embalse de relaves de 600 acres, un área de rocas de desecho de 45 millones de toneladas, reservas de material de recuperación, reservas de mineral de baja ley, instalación de equipo, estación de combustible, almacenes y otras instalaciones auxiliares necesarias para operar la mina. Los concentrados de cobre, molibdeno y oro grueso trasladarán por camión para más procesamiento fuera del sitio.

Audiencia Pública

El objetivo de la audiencia pública es ofrecerle al público la oportunidad de conocer y comentar sobre el permiso de la Nueva Operación Minera para la Mina Copper Flat. Un Oficial de Audiencia conducirá la audiencia en nombre de MMD y, de conformidad con la Ley de Minería de NM, Regla 19.10.9.905 NMAC, tendrá autoridad para tomar todas las medidas necesarias para el mantenimiento del orden y el decoro, y para la presentación eficiente, justa e imparcial de el nuevo permiso de operación minera solicitado para la Mina Copper Flat y la recepción de comentarios públicos. La audiencia pública no es adjudicativa y no se tomarán decisiones finales con respecto a la solicitud en la audiencia pública, ni el Oficial de Audiencia hará ninguna recomendación al MMD al finalizar la audiencia. Por el contrario, el Oficial de Audiencia preparará para MMD un informe resumido que resumirá los comentarios técnicos y no técnicos tomados en la audiencia para que el Director de MMD pueda considerar cuestiones sociales, económicas, técnicas y de otro tipo que surjan en la audiencia pública. Cualquier persona interesada puede presentar comentarios verbales o escritos en la audiencia pública.

Representantes NMCC dará una presentación del permiso de Nueva Operación Minera solicitado para la Mina Copper Flat. Luego, se ofrecerá una oportunidad para comentarios públicos. Cualquier persona interesada puede testificar en la audiencia. Una persona que desea presentar un testimonio debe indicar este deseo en la lista de asistencia antes de que comience la audiencia. Cualquier persona que testifique en la audiencia está sujeta a una serie de preguntas (un interrogatorio) sobre el tema de su testimonio directo. Cualquier persona que asista a la audiencia tiene derecho a interrogar el testigo que se requiera para la divulgación completa de los asuntos en cuestión en la audiencia. El oficial de la audiencia puede limitar el interrogatorio para evitar el acoso, la intimidación, el gasto de tiempo innecesario o indebido repetición. Todos los testimonios se tomarán bajo juramento o afirmación.

### Detalles de audiencias públicas

La audiencia pública está programada **para el 21 y 22 de agosto de 2018, de 9:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m. los dos días.**

La ubicación de la audiencia pública será en **el Centro Cívico de Truth or Consequences y Ralph Edwards Auditorio, 400 West Fourth Street, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901.**

El Paquete de Solicitud de Permiso y el Borrador de Evaluación Ambiental para la Mina Copper Flat están disponibles para su revisión en la Oficina de MMD en Santa Fe, Nuevo México, y también se pueden ver en el sitio web de MMD en <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/mmd/MARP/PermitSI027RN.html>

Los comentarios sobre la solicitud de NMCC para un nuevo permiso de operación minera para la Mina Copper Flat se pueden presentar al Director de MMD en la siguiente dirección:

Director  
Mining and Minerals Division  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department  
1220 S. St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

O por correo electrónico a: [EMNRD-MMD.Director@state.nm.us](mailto:EMNRD-MMD.Director@state.nm.us)

Cualquier parte interesada puede enviar comentarios por escrito sobre la solicitud al Director de MMD. El Director de MMD debe recibir los comentarios por escrito antes del cierre del registro de audiencia establecido durante la audiencia pública. Los comentarios por escrito pueden enviarse fuera del proceso de audiencia o en la audiencia.