

Public Notice

Chevron Mining Inc. (formerly The Pittsburg & Midway Coal Mining Co.) has filed an application for bond release of the permanent-program performance bond for Area 9 North (Area 9N) which includes 1,193 acres of land eligible for Phase II and Phase III bond release and 139 acres that qualify for Phase I bond release (which lies within the Phase II and III area). Phase II bond release is being sought since vegetation has been established and the contribution of suspended solids to streamflow or runoff outside the permit is not in excess of the 19.8 NMAC requirements. Phase III bond release is being sought since the reclaimed area has met vegetation standards in accordance with the permit and the regulations and all remaining reclamation obligations have been completed. The Phase I bond release area includes a road, reclaimed road and railroad corridors and reclaimed ancillary areas, that qualify for Phase I release.

The application was filed with the New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the Energy, Minerals & Resources Department in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Chevron Mining Inc.'s headquarters is located at 6001 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, CA 94583. The current permit number for the McKinley Mine regulated by MMD is 2016-02, which expired on March 7, 2021 but has been administratively extended by MMD.

The McKinley Mine is located approximately 23 miles northwest of Gallup, NM and 3 miles east of Window Rock, AZ on NM State Highway 264. The areas in the bond release application are located within the Samson Lake USGS quadrangle map.

The land for which bond release is sought is shown on the accompanying map Figure 1 McKinley Mine Area 9N Bond Release Area, and is located within the following areas:

T16N, R20W New Mexico Principal Meridian, McKinley County, New Mexico

Section Numbers: 8, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, 23 and 26.

Area	Township and Range	Section	Phase I Acres	Phase II Acres	Phase III Acres	Surface Ownership	Allotment Numbers
9N	T16N, R20W	8	4.0	4.0	4.0	BIA	1612
		8	21.8	21.8	21.8	BIA	1613
		8	14.2	14.2	14.2	BIA	1614
		8	20.0	20.0	20.0	BIA	1615
		10	0.1	27.2	27.2	BIA	1578
		10	0.2	1.7	1.7	BIA	1580
		13	8.6	8.6	8.6	NTUA	
		14		132.2	132.2	BIA	1570
		14		122.1	122.1	BIA	1571
		15	3.8	38.3	38.3	Westbrook	
		15	4.0	438.1	438.1	Chevron USA, Inc.	
		16		10.4	10.4	BIA	1592
		16	14.0	16.5	16.5	BIA	1595
		18	27.9	27.9	27.9	BIA	1604
		18	16.0	16.0	16.0	BIA	1605
		18	1.7	1.7	1.7	BIA	1606
		20	1.8	1.8	1.8	BIA	1602
		22		71.1	71.1	BLM	
		23	0.9	321.4	321.4	Chevron USA, Inc.	
		26		1.9	1.9	BIA	1564
26		6.1	6.1	BIA	1567		
		Total	139.0	1303.0	1303.0		

Bonding Information

The following summarizes the current and remaining bond fund, proposed bond release and remaining bond:

Current Bond Type:	Surety Bond
▪ Current Bond Fund:	\$ 24,645,642
▪ Less Previous A11/12 PI Bond Release:	\$ 1,150,724
▪ Remaining Bond Fund:	\$ 23,494,918
▪ Area 9N direct & indirect costs to be released:	\$ 2,876,291
▪ New Bond Fund Amount:	\$ 20,618,627 (in 2022 dollars)

Disturbed Acreage to be released:

▪ Total acreage to be released:	1,303.0 ac.
▪ Acres permitted:	12,958.2 ac.
▪ Percentage of acres permitted being released:	10.1%

Disturbance and mining in Area 9N occurred between 1986 and 2006. Phase I bond for much of the area was released in 2015, which covered backfilling and grading, graded spoil suitability, topsoil replacement and construction of hydrologic structures and drainage control. 139 acres of road and railroad corridors and ancillary areas that were excluded from the 2015 Phase I bond release are now eligible for Phase I bond release and included with this bond release application. Seeding of the majority of the reclaimed lands occurred between 1992 and 2014. Assessment of Area 9N for vegetation performance was conducted in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

A copy of the detailed bond-release application is available for public inspection at the following locations:

- County Clerk, McKinley County Courthouse, 201 W Hill Ave, Gallup, New Mexico, 87301.
- New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division, 1220 South St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505 (Contact Name: James R. Smith by phone at 505-690-8071 or by email at JamesR.Smith@emnrd.nm.gov to make arrangements to review the bond release application).
- Within 30 days of the final publication of a notice for this bond-release application in the Gallup Independent or Navajo Times newspaper, written comments, objections, or requests for a public hearing and informal conference on this bond-release application shall be submitted to:
 - Mike Tompson, Director, Mining and Minerals Division, 1220 South St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505.

Figure 1: McKinley Mine Area 9N Bond Release Area

