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STATE CAPITOL  
Santa Fe

REBECCA L. DOW  
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District 38

August 16, 2022

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Mr. Jerry Schoeppner  
Director, Mining and Minerals Division  
New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department  
1220 South St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Dear Director Schoeppner:

The proposed expansion of the Tyrone Mine for the Emma Project is vitally important to Grant County and I strongly support its approval by the Mining and Minerals Division.

The reasons why this proposed project is worthy of approval are the following:

- Mining jobs and the associated tax revenue are the backbone of the economy in Grant County.
- The Emma Project is needed to extend the life of the Tyrone Mine and will help maintain these high-paying mining jobs that are essential to the long-term economic prosperity of southwestern New Mexico.
- The Emma Project will increase production of much needed domestic copper, which is in high demand for renewal energy and electrification.

Freeport-McMoRan has also demonstrated an excellent track record of taking environmental protection very seriously and has done an outstanding job of mine reclamation. Therefore, there is a high level of confidence that the Emma project will be operated with all relevant environmental safeguards being implemented.

In order for the Emma project to begin as soon as possible, I encourage the Mining and Minerals Division to issue all needed permits for this proposed project as expeditiously as possible. I would also respectfully request that these comments be included in the official record of the public hearing on the Emma project scheduled for today at the Grant County Veteran’s Memorial Business and Conference Center in Silver City.

Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Sincerely yours,

Rebecca Dow  
State Representative District 38