

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 VMU 1 which includes 837 acres of land eligible for Phase II and Phase III bond release and 48 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 VMU 1 Bond Release Area, and is located within the following areas:

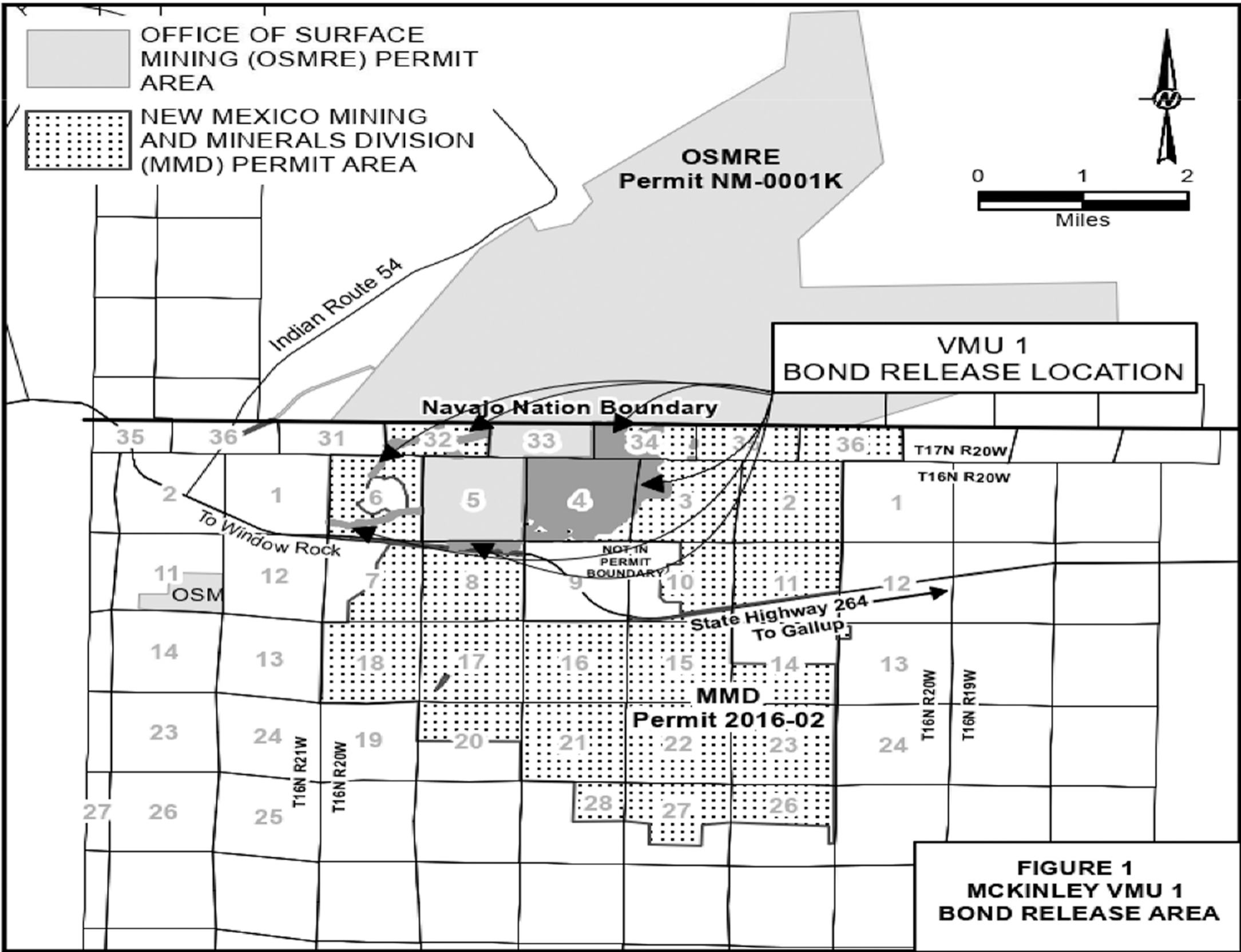
T16N, R20W New Mexico Principal Meridian, McKinley County, New Mexico:
Section Numbers: 3, 4, 6, and 8

T17N, R20W New Mexico Principal Meridian, McKinley County, New Mexico:
Section Numbers: 32 and 34

VMU 1 Surface Ownership

VMU	Township and Range	Section	Phase I Acres	Phase II Acres	Phase III Acres	Surface Ownership	Allotment Numbers
1	T16N, R20W	3		58.5	58.5	Chevron USA, Inc.	N/A
		4		184.2	184.2	BIA	1616
		4		103.5	103.5	BIA	1617
		4		119.7	119.7	BIA	1618
		4		176.9	176.9	BIA	1619
		6	14.6	14.6	14.6	BLM	N/A
		8		9.6	9.6	BIA	1613
		8		9.4	9.4	BIA	1614
		8		3.1	3.1	BIA	1614
1	T17N, R20W	32	24.3	24.3	24.3	BIA	1622
		32	8.1	8.1	8.1	BIA	1623
		34	0.9	0.9	0.9	BIA	1620
		34		122.5	122.5	BIA	1620
		34		1.1	1.1	BIA	1621
		Total	47.9	836.5	836.5		

Figure 1: McKinley Mine VMU 1 Bond Release Area



Bonding Information

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

Current Bond Type:	Surety Bond
Current Bond Certificates Amount:	\$ 24,645,642
Remaining Bond Fund after 9S and 9N PIII Release:	\$ 19,134,482
MMD VMU 1 direct & indirect costs to be released:	\$ 1,846,525
New Bond Fund Amount:	\$ 17,287,957
Disturbed Acreage to be released:	
Total acreage to be released:	837.0 ac.
Acres permitted:	12,958.2 ac.
Percentage of acres permitted being released:	6.5%

Disturbance and mining in VMU 1 occurred between 1986 and 2009. Phase I bond for much of the area was released in 2011, which covered backfilling and grading, graded spoil suitability, topsoil replacement and construction of hydrologic structures and drainage control. 48 acres of road and railroad corridors and ancillary areas that were excluded from the 2011 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 1999 and 2014. Assessment of VMU 1 for vegetation performance was conducted in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.

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: Erik Munroe by phone at 505-670-9997 or by email at erik.munroe@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.