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STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

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September 19, 2019

David Ennis
Permit Lead, Mining Act Reclamation Program
Mining and Minerals Division
1220 South Saint Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Re: HPD Log# 111471, Request for Comments on Old Stope Leach Mine Interim Closeout Plan, McKinley County, New Mexico, Permit No. MK009RE

Dear Mr. Ennis:

I am writing in response to your request for comment on the above Closeout Plan project received by the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on September 19, 2019.

The SHPO recommends the following language modifications for Section 5.7.3 "Cultural Resource Surveys": The second sentence of the first paragraph of this section states: "*Prior to conducting future remedial activities on lands within the project area RAML will conduct a class I Cultural investigation consisting of a combination of background research and fieldwork designed to identify resources and define project area boundaries*". Please note that a Class I cultural resource survey only consists of an archival or database (background) study. Any cultural resource fieldwork would consist of a Class II (sample survey) or Class III (complete survey) of the project area. As such, we recommend the following statement modification: *Prior to conducting future remedial activities on lands within the project area RAML will conduct a Class I cultural resource background investigation and Class II or Class III fieldwork designed to identify resources and define project area boundaries*.

Also please note that where the project area impinges on State of New Mexico owned land (as stated in paragraph 2 of Section 5.7.3), the applicable laws listed should include the New Mexico Cultural Properties Protection Act (N.M. Stat §§18-6A-1 through 6).

If you have any questions concerning these comments, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at (505)-452-6115 or e-mail me at richard.reycraft@state.nm.us

Sincerely,

Richard Reycraft

Richard. Reycraft
HPD Staff Archaeologist

