Michelle Lujan Grisham Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD Deputy Cabinet Secretary **Jerry Schoeppner**, Director Mining and Minerals Division



ELECTRONIC TRANSMITTAL

June 24, 2020

Cynthia Gulde, PhD, Chevron EMC Project Manager Questa Mine 354 State Highway 38 Questa, NM 87556-0469

RE: Modification Application Request: Questa Mine and Mill, Permit No. TA001RE. Proposed changes in Post Mining Land Use ("PMLU") and definition of approved materials for pit disposal

Dear Dr. Gulde,

Per recent discussions involved with the CERCLA Group 1 Waste Rockpile Project and as follow up to Chevron's March 22, 2018 Letter titled, *Withdrawal of Permit Modification 17-2, Permit TA001RE, Revision 96-2, Questa Mine Post Mining Land Use* ("PMLU"), MMD has determined that it is essential to move forward with the PMLU Change from Forestry to Wildlife Habitat to better align State Permit No. TA001RE with CERCLA actions on the site.

Additionally, in this modification application, please include your request to change the definition of "approved materials" as defined in Modification 17-1, Section 5 A. of Permit TA001RE to encompass all anticipated materials that will need to be disposed of in the Pit during reclamation activities of the mine.

Please provide MMD with the above-mentioned modification application within 90 days of receipt of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at 505-467-9589 or via e-mail at: <u>clinton.chisler@state.nm.us</u>.

Sincerely,

Cluth Chils

Clint Chisler, Permit Lead - Permit Tracking No. TA001RE Mining Act Reclamation Program MARP/MMD

CC: Holland Shepherd, Program Manager, MARP/MMD Jerry Schoeppner, Director Kevin Myers, MMD Anne Maurer, NMED Joseph Fox, NMED Kurt Vollbrecht, NMED

Mine File: TA001RE