State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michele Lujan Grisham Governor

Sarah Cottrell Propst Cabinet Secretary

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



Electronic Transmission

October 29, 2020

Matt Lane The Española Mercantile Company 1302 N. Riverside Drive Espanola, NM 87532

RE: Application Administratively Complete, Closeout Plan Completion Report Las Conchas Unit, Modification 20-1, Permit No. SA001RE

Dear Mr. Lane,

The New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division ("MMD") received an application to modify Permit No. SA001RE El Cajete Mine on September 30, 2020 from The Española Mercantile Company ("TEMC") titled *Closeout Plan Completion Report Las Conchas Unit of the El Cajete Mine Permit No. SA001RE* ("Application"). Pursuant to 19.10.9.903 NMAC, TEMC submitted proof of public notice and the permit modification fee to MMD concurrently with the Application. MMD has assigned Modification 20-1 to process the Application.

MMD has conducted a review of the Modification 20-1 Application and hereby deems the application to be administratively complete pursuant to 19.10.12.1210.A NMAC. In accordance with 19.10.9.903.I NMAC, TEMC shall notify the people who have indicated to MMD that they desire information regarding the application and those individuals and organizations that are on a list maintained by MMD who have requested notice of applications that have been deemed administratively complete. TEMC shall notify these parties in writing and by first class mail. A list of those individuals and organizations is attached. TEMC shall provide MMD with timely proof that the required notifications have been made.

MMD has sent request for comment letters to the state agencies for the Modification 20-1 Application pursuant to 19.10.12.1210.A(4) NMAC. The agencies will have 30 days from receipt of the request in which to provide comments, excluding approved time extensions.

Please contact me at (505) 216-8399 or at carmen.rose@state.nm.us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Carmen Rose, Permit Lead

Mining Act Reclamation Program ("MARP")

Mining and Minerals Division

Enclosure

CC: Holland Shepherd, Program Manager, MARP, MMD

Katharine Fishman, President and CEO, TEMC Larry Gore, Geologist, USDA Forest Service