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NEW MEXICO
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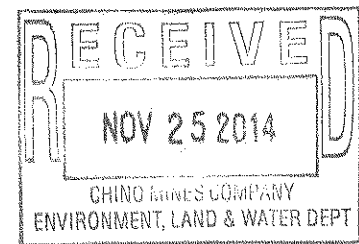
RYAN FLYNN
Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

November 21, 2014

Ms. Sherry Burt-Kested, Manager
Environment Services
Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company
P.O. Box 10
Bayard, New Mexico 88023



**RE: Approval of Groundhog Mine and Historic Stockpiles Annual Monitoring Report
Hanover and Whitewater Creeks Investigation Unit (HWCIU)
Chino Administrative Order on Consent (AOC)**

Dear Ms. Burt-Kested:

The Ground Water Quality Bureau of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received the *Groundhog Mine and Historic Stockpiles Annual Monitoring Report* (Report) on November 3, 2014 from the Chino Mines Company (Chino). NMED has completed a review of the Report and accepts this document as written. NMED looks forward to reviewing the Site Wide Abatement Stage 1 Final Investigation Report later this year including sections related to the Groundhog Mine site.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (575)-956-1550.

Sincerely,

Matt Schultz, Chino AOC Project Manager
Mining Environmental Compliance Section
Ground Water Quality Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
Silver City Field Office

Ms. Sherry Burt-Kested

11/21/14

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cc: Petra Sanchez, USEPA (via email)
Jerry Schoeppner, NMED (via email)
Kurt Vollbrecht, NMED (via email)
Joseph Fox, NMED (via email)
Ned Hall, Freeport-McMoRan Inc. (via email)
Pam Pinson, Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company (via email)