



NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

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SUSANA MARTINEZ
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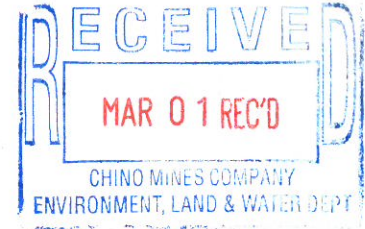
JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

BUTCH TONGATE
Cabinet Secretary

J.C. BORREGO
Deputy Secretary

February 21, 2017

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) dated October 31, 2016 from Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company (Chino). NMED has completed a review of the Report and accepts this document as written. NMED continues to review the Draft Site Wide Abatement Stage 1 Final Investigation Report, including sections related to the Groundhog Mine site and the concentration trend discussed in previous correspondence.

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

Sincerely,

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

DWM: dwm

cc: Petra Sanchez, Remedial Program Manager, USEPA (via email)
Kurt Vollbrecht, Program Manager, MECS (via email)
Joe Fox, AOC Team Leader, MECS (via email)
Mark Lewis, Formation Environmental (via email)
Joe Allen, Formation Environmental (via email)
Alicia Voss, Freeport-McMoRan Inc. (via email)
Pam Pinson, Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company (via email)