



Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ Lieutenant Governor

## **NEW MEXICO** ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Ground Water Quality Bureau 1190 South St. Francis Drive (87505) P.O. Box 5469, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-5469 Phone (505) 827-2900 Fax (505) 827-2965 www.env.nm.gov



**BUTCH TONGATE** Cabinet Secretary

J.C. BORREGO Deputy Secretary

January 9, 2018

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



RE: Approved request for a 30-day extension of time to respond to NMED Comments on the Year 5 Report on pH Monitoring to Evaluate the Effect of the White Rain on the Smelter/Tailing Soil Investigation Unit dated December 20, 2017, Chino Administrative **Order on Consent** 

Dear Ms. Burt-Kested:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has reviewed your request referenced above and approves the extension request for a period of thirty days. This extension affords Chino until January 19, 2018 to provide their response to NMED's comments. If you have any questions, please contact me at (575) 956-1550.

Sincerely,

David w Mercan

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: Bruce Yurdin, NMED (via email)

> Kurt Vollbrecht, NMED (via email) Joseph Fox, NMED (via email) Petra Sanchez, USEPA (via email)

Alicia Voss, Freeport-McMoRan Inc. (via email)

Pam Pinson, Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company (via email)