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NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Ground Water Quality Bureau

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MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
Governor

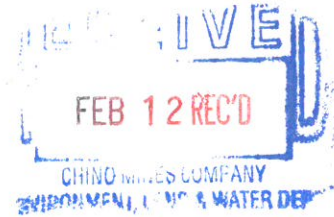
JAMES C. KENNEY
Cabinet Secretary Designate

HOWIE C. MORALES
Lieutenant Governor

JENNIFER J. PRUETT
Deputy Secretary

February 6, 2019

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 30, 2018 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. In addition, NMED understands that Chino will be submitting paperwork through DP-213 to move the lower pond collection system out of the AOC and into active operations as noted in previous correspondence and the subject monitoring report.

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

NMED Approval Groundhog Annual Monitoring Report

February 6, 2019

Page 2

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