



**NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**



Ground Water Quality Bureau

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May 1, 2019

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



RE: Conditional Approval of Vegetation Monitoring Report, Hurley Railroad Interim Remedial Action Site, Smelter/Tailings Soils Investigative Unit, Dated August 31, 2018; Chino AOC

Dear Ms. Burt-Kested,

NMED conditionally approves the above referenced report, provided the following corrections are made and submitted for placement in the AOC repository. It was noted during the public comment period that the document contains "compositional errors," and in general, appears more consistent with a rough draft than a final report. While NMED does not feel that the writing style or other compositional errors affect the science and conclusions presented in the report, an effort should be made to proofread and edit the report to improve its readability. In addition, NMED requires the following specific edits be made:

Specific Comments:

- 1) Section 4, Page 5: Appendix C was erroneously referred to as Appendix B.
- 2) Section 4.2, Page 5: The number of samples needed to achieve sample adequacy was reported in Table 6 as "Nmin". The table was erroneously referenced in Section 4.2 as Table 4 and needs correction. In addition, please add the total number of samples collected to Table 6 for clarity.

Please contact me should you have any questions.

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: Kurt Vollbrecht, Program Manager, MECS (via email)
Petra Sanchez, Remedial Program Manager, USEPA (via email)
Joe Fox, AOC Team Leader, MECS (via email)
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