



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

JAMES C. KENNEY
CABINET SECRETARY

Electronic Transmission

August 31, 2022

Sherry Burt-Kested
Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company
P.O. Box 10
Bayard, NM 88023

RE: Approval of the Revised 2019 Quantitative Vegetation Monitoring Report, Razorback Ridge Interim Removal Action Completion Report, Smelter Tailings Investigation Unit (STSIU), May 23, 2022, Chino AOC

Dear Sherry Burt-Kested:

The Ground Water Quality Bureau (GWQB) of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received the Revised 2019 Quantitative Vegetation Monitoring Report (Report) dated May 23, 2022 from Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company (Chino). NMED reviewed the initial Report dated August 6, 2021 and requested additional information in a letter dated March 21, 2022. Chino submitted additional information in the form of responses to NMED comments, along with a revised Report on May 23, 2022.

NMED did not receive any comments from the public or other stakeholders.

NMED has reviewed the response to comments and revised Report and hereby approves the submittal.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 372-8545.

Sincerely,

David W. Mercer, Chino AOC Project Manager
Mining Environmental Compliance Section
Ground Water Quality Bureau

DM

SCIENCE | INNOVATION | COLLABORATION | COMPLIANCE

Ground Water Quality Bureau | 1190 Saint Francis Drive, PO Box 5469, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-5469

Telephone (505) 827-2900 | www.env.nm.gov/gwqb/

Sherry Burt-Kested, Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company
Approval of Revised 2019 Quantitative Vegetation Monitoring Report
August 31, 2022

cc: Petra Sanchez, USEPA (via email)
Joe Fox, NMED (via email)
Mike Steward, Freeport-McMoRan Inc. (via email)
Pam Pinson, Freeport-McMoRan Inc. (via email)
Joe Allen, Formation Inc. (via email)