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TO: Holland Shepherd, Mining and Minerals Division Mining Act Reclamation Program Manager (EMNRD/MMD)
FROM: David L. Mayerson, Mining Environmental Compliance Section (NMED)
THROUGH: Kurt Vollbrecht, Program Manager (MECS/NMED) 
DATE: February 11, 2015
RE: New Mexico Environment Department response to "*Request for comments, Application to renew standby status, Mt. Taylor Mine Revision 14-1, Permit No. C1002RE*" (December 2, 2014)

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received a request, dated December 5, 2014, from the New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) to review and provide comments on the above-referenced Application, dated October 12, 2014, to renew standby status for the Mt. Taylor mine. The Mt. Taylor mine, which is owned and operated by Rio Grande Resources Corporation (RGRC), is a conventional underground uranium mine that is located approximately one-half mile northeast of the Village of San Mateo in Cibola County, New Mexico, in Section 24, Township 13 North, Range 8 West.

The application and recent site inspection by NMED personnel indicate that no changes in the physical conditions of the site have occurred since the last renewal of standby. Review of the application to renew standby indicate there are no proposed changes from the previous standby approval. The Ground Water Quality Bureau, Surface Water Quality Bureau, and Air Quality Bureau have no comments on the current application to renew standby. NMED previously issued a determination dated May 27, 2011 that environmental standards will be met during the standby period if carried out as described in the New Mexico Mining Act permit application. The previous determination by NMED still stands.

Please contact me at (505) 476-3777 or by email at david.mayerson@state.nm.us if there are any questions.