

**RESOLUTION URGING SETTLEMENT OF LABOR DISPUTE  
AT PHELPS DODGE'S CHINO MINES**

97-03-27

**GRANT COUNTY COMMISSION  
MARCH 27, 1997**

**WHEREAS** the members and retirees of the United Steelworkers of America and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers have produced copper at the Santa Rita (Chino) Mines for over 60 years, and are the bedrock of our community, and

**WHEREAS** the workers represented by the unions have made Chino Mines one of the safest and most productive in the Phelps Dodge Corporation, and

**WHEREAS** the well-being and economic stability of mining families are important to the prosperity of Grant County, and

**WHEREAS** the copper mine workers have, through the years, been a positive force towards the goal of social justice and equality for all in our community, and

**WHEREAS** for the past 10 months USWA and IBEW union members have been trying to negotiate a contract with Phelps Dodge that provides continued prosperity and security for workers, their families and our community, but have been forced to work the last 8 months under the terms of the expired contract, and

**WHEREAS** Phelps Dodge's failure to offer a more beneficial labor agreement to workers has caused tension, uncertainty and economic peril to employees, and

**WHEREAS** during Phelps Dodge's tenure at these Grant county copper mines, and coinciding with its labor dispute, fewer and fewer mine jobs have been made available to young citizens in our community, and an increased number of workers have been brought in from other areas and other states, and

**WHEREAS** a new contract with acceptable terms of employment is critical to the security and prosperity of Grant County families and businesses, and a labor dispute will cause untold harm in our community, and

**WHEREAS** Phelps Dodge has not responded to the USWA and IBEW's reasonable request to continue negotiations in the Silver City area to reach a fair contract, and

**WHEREAS** Phelps Dodge's unbudging stance is creating a crisis in Grant County and impacts all of Southwestern New Mexico,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Commissioners of Grant County urge Phelps Dodge to show consideration for our community and negotiate a fair contract in the mining district that protects the families and businesses of Grant County.

**SIGNED and APPROVED**, this 27 day of March, 1997 in Silver City, Grant County, New Mexico.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OF GRANT COUNTY**

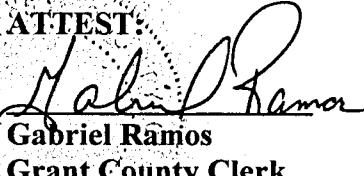
  
MANUEL T. SERNA  
**MANUEL T. SERNA, CHAIRMAN**

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**CARL W. SCHOLL, MEMBER**

  
Carl W. Scholl  
**ZEKE SANTA MARIA, MEMBER**

ATTEST:

  
Gabriel Ramos  
**Grant County Clerk**