

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF GRANT**

**RESOLUTION NO: R-25-15
SUPPORTING TYRONE PEAK EXPLORATION AND EMMA EXPLORATION BY
FREEPORT-MCMORAN**

WHEREAS, Section 4-37-1, NMSA 1978, grants Counties the powers necessary to provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity and improve the morals, order, comfort and convenience of any county or its inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, Section 4-38-18, NMSA 1978, provides that the Board of County Commissioners has the power to represent the county and have the care of the county property and the management of the interest of the county in all cases where no other provision is made by law; and

WHEREAS, Freeport-McMoRan operates the Tyrone Copper Mine located approximately ten miles south of Silver City in Grant County, New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Freeport-McMoRan submitted applications for exploration permits near the Tyrone mine for exploration drilling; and

WHEREAS, the exploration of the Emma and Tyrone Peak areas holds potential for discovering valuable mineral resources that can contribute to the economic stability of our county;

WHEREAS, the possible extension of mine life and jobs from these projects are crucial to the well-being of our county;

WHEREAS, in 2023 Freeport-McMoRan's mining operations generated \$175 million in economic benefits for Grant County and \$414.5 million for the State of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the direct economic impact on Grant County there is indirect impact from vendor purchases, employee spending, spending from pension income as well as the spending from new tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, Freeport-McMoRan's community investment enables community well-being, resiliency and sustainability by supporting local organizations such as numerous non-profits and education entities; and

WHEREAS, Freeport-McMoRan has exhibited a high level of environmental stewardship and community engagement by conducting responsible, sustainable practices and adherence to regulatory requirements to minimize any potential environmental impact; and

WHEREAS, Freeport-McMoRan's reclamation, land restoration efforts and habitat preservation demonstrate the commitment to the environment in Grant County; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of Grant County understands the importance of responsible mineral exploration and the significant economic benefits it brings to Grant County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of County Commissioners of Grant County urges the New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division to provide timely approval of Freeport-McMoRan's exploration permit applications for the Emma and Tyrone Peak projects. The approval of this permit will not only support economic development but also ensure that the exploration is conducted in an environmentally responsible manner.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2025.

[Signature page follows]

**Board of County Commissioners
Grant County, New Mexico**


Chris Ponce, District 1, Chairman

Voted: Yes ☒ No ☐ Abstained ☐


Eloy Medina, District 2, Vice-Chair

Voted: Yes ☒ No ☐ Abstained ☐


Nancy Stephens, District 3

Voted: Yes ☒ No ☐ Abstained ☐



Eddie M. Flores, District 4

Voted: Yes ☒ No ☐ Abstained ☐


Thomas L. Shelley, District 5

Voted: Yes ☒ No ☐ Abstained ☐

ATTEST:


Connie Holguin, Grant County Clerk

