

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Farmington District  
Farmington Field Office  
6251 N College Blvd., Ste. A  
Farmington, NM 87402

**Finding of No Significant Impact**

**El Segundo Mine  
Lease By Application**

**NEPA No. DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2013-0139-EA**

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:**

I have determined that the proposed action of issuing the lease to the successful bidder as described in the revised EA will not have any significant impact, individually or cumulatively, on the quality of the human environment. Because there would not be any significant impact, an environmental impact statement is not required.

In making this determination, I considered the following factors:

1. The activities described in the proposed action do not include any significant beneficial or adverse impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(1)). The EA includes a description of the expected environmental consequences of mining, reclamation, and associated activities.
2. The activities included in the proposed action would not significantly affect public health or safety (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(2)).
3. The proposed activities would not significantly affect any unique characteristics (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3)) of the geographic area such as prime and unique farmlands, caves, wild and scenic rivers, designated wilderness areas, wilderness study areas, or areas of critical concern.
4. The activities described in the proposed action do not involve effects on the human environment that are likely to be highly controversial (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(4)).
5. The activities described in the proposed action do not involve effects that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(5)).
6. My decision to implement these activities does not establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(6)).
7. The effects of mining and subsequent reclamation would not be significant, individually or cumulatively, when considered with the effects of other actions (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)). The EA discloses that there are no other connected or cumulative actions that would cause significant cumulative impacts.
8. I have determined that the activities described in the proposed action will not adversely affect or cause loss or destruction of scientific, cultural, or historical resources, including those listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(8)). Cultural resource surveys were completed. Two sites eligible for National Register listing will be avoided. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will be consulted on National Register eligibility of seven sites. All sites determined eligible

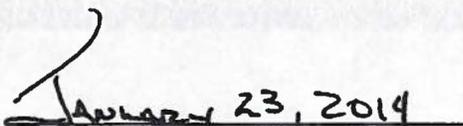
for National Register listing by SHPO will require additional archaeological investigations, with the potential for data recovery. Representatives from Laguna Pueblo will be consulted regarding the treatment of site LA 27899, a TCP (4-17).

9. The proposed activities are not likely to adversely affect any endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(9)). The project area does not contain any known threatened or endangered species populations or designated critical habitat (4-14).

10. The proposed activities will not threaten any violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(10)). Plan conformance and conformance with relevant laws, regulations, policies, program guidance, and/or local permitting requirements germane to the proposed action can be found on page 1-3 of the EA.

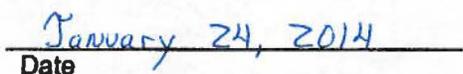
**Recommended:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Evans, District Manager  
Farmington District Office

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Approved:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
for Jesse Juen, New Mexico State Director  
Bureau of Land Management

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date