



Homestake Mining Company of California

David W. Pierce
Closure Manager

30 March 2020

Ms. Ashlynn Winton
Mining Environmental Compliance Section
Ground Water Quality Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department

Mr. Mark Purcell
Superfund and Emergency Management Division (6SF)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 6

Mr. Ron Linton
Project Manager/Hydrogeologist
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

RE: Homestake Grants Site response to potential exposure to COVID-19

Dear Ms. Winton, Messrs. Purcell & Linton:

COVID-19:

The Homestake Grants Site experienced a possible exposure to the COVID-19 virus. A symptomatic employee was sent home today, March 30, 2020, which was the first time that Homestake was informed or became aware of the employee's symptoms. As of the time of the writing of this letter, the employee is at a medical facility getting tested for the virus. Following the COVID-19 protocols placed in effect by Homestake and its parent corporation, and an abundance of caution, all coworkers who may have been exposed to employee will remain at home practicing social distancing and self-isolation until the test results are received.

A thorough disinfecting of work areas and vehicles will happen Wednesday morning prior to resumption of normal duties and tasks. The site will be closed Tuesday (tomorrow).

Should the test results be negative the self-isolating employees will return to their next scheduled shift. The split-shifts will remain in effect.

Should the results be positive the self-isolating employees will remain home for a period no less than 14 days. The other shift will revert back to Monday through Friday coverage next week.

Operations:

The RO unit is currently down for a blown seal. Current plans are to have the plant up by Friday at the earliest. This is the same seal that failed last September. We have a spare seal on site and will be coordinating with several contractors to affect the repairs.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please contact me via e-mail at dpierce@homestakeminingcoca.com or at the Grants office at 505.238.9701.

Respectfully,

David W. Pierce

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