EA Engineering, Science, & Technology, Inc., PBC
320 Gold Avenue SW, Suite 1300
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102
Phone: (505) 224-9013

August 13, 2025

Miori Harms, CPG-123000
Uranium Mine Reclamation Coordinator
New Mexico Environment Department – Office of the Secretary
Office of Strategic Initiatives
121 Tijeras Ave NE, Suite 1000
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Dear Ms. Harms:

EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC is submitting this Community Relations Plan for the reclamation of abandoned uranium mine Schmitt Decline Mine (NM0261) located approximately 14 miles north of Milan, New Mexico at the intersection of State Highway 509 and State Highway 605 in the Grants Mining District. The Community Relations Plan was completed in accordance with contract #26-667-2030-0004 and purchase order 66700-0000045516.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the information provided in this plan.

Sincerely,

Colleen Rust, PMP, PG, CPG
Contract Manager

Enclosure

Cc: Project File

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN
ABANDONED URANIUM MINE RECLAMATION
SCHMITT DECLINE MINE
GRANTS MINING DISTRICT, NEW MEXICO

Prepared for

New Mexico Environment Department
Office of the Secretary
Office of Strategic Initiatives
Uranium Mine Reclamation Program
Harold Runnels Building
1190 South Saint Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Prepared by:

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Contract # 26-667-2030-00004

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Contract Manager

Date

EA Project No. 16569-01-45516-TM

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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 Site Location

The Schmitt Decline Mine (NM0261; Site) is an abandoned uranium mine located on State Trust Land managed by the New Mexico State Land Office approximately 1.22 air-miles west-northwest of the intersection of State Highway 509 and State Highway 605, (Township and Range SW¼ of the SW¼ of Section 16, Township 13 North, Range 9 West; Latitude and Longitude 35°20'58.9"N 107°48'13.0"W), in McKinley County, New Mexico (Figure 1).

1.2 Previous Site Use and Any Previous Cleanup/Remediation

On June 2, 2009, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) conducted a site assessment at the abandoned uranium Schmitt Decline Mine (NM0261) (NMED, 2009; Figure 2). It was determined that the mine operated as a dry mine, and is currently an open and unfenced decline, surrounded by waste material piles that show evidence of erosional dispersion. The decline appears to be structurally stable. One pile of sandstone material had the highest observed gamma radiation reading of 2687 counts per second (cps), a background gamma radiation reading was 21 cps. There are residences located a little more than one mile away and the closest well is a livestock well located very close to the mine site with 2 ug/L of total uranium. The surface land and mineral estate are privately held.

In October 2011, EPA conducted Pre-CERCLIS Screening with an aerial radiological survey in the Poison Canyon area of the Ambrosia Lake sub-district by using the Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT) (EPA, 2012). The Schmitt Decline Mine was included in the ASPECT survey. The gamma radiation readings at the Schmitt Decline Mine site were not statistically greater than background readings in the Poison Canyon area. EPA recommended that the Schmitt Decline Mine be considered a low priority under CERCLA.

In 2018, an EPA Phase 2 Groundwater Investigation Report for the San Mateo Creek Basin Legacy Uranium Mines Site determined that the Schmitt Decline Mine is a dry mine within the Dakota Sandstone Formation of the Poison Canyon Deposits west of the San Mateo fault zone and west of the Arroyo del Puerto (EPA, 2018).

1.3 Proposed Project Approach

The proposed project approach will be to conduct a Stage 1 Uranium Mine Site Assessment (UMSA) to create a work plan. The work plan will be implemented during the Stage 2 UMSA to include sampling and assessment of the Site. Based on findings from the Stage 2 UMSA, a selected method of reclamation will be determined. The selected method of reclamation will be executed, and the Site will be graded, and erosion control will be established. During Stage 3 UMSA a Reclamation and Restoration Report will be provided with a description of the reclamation and restoration. A Post-Reclamation Closeout Survey and Report and Long-Term Monitoring and Management Plan will be developed for the Site.

1.4 Future Site Land Use

The Site is located on State Trust Land behind locked gates to be managed by New Mexico State Land Office.

2.0 COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN OVERVIEW

This Community Relations Plan (CRP) has been developed to encourage community involvement in the project, as well as to facilitate communication between the community members throughout the reclamation project. The CRP will promote communication of project status and solicit public input on the reclamation from stakeholders and residents. Public outreach will be maximized to inform the public on key issues identified during the reclamation planning process. The long-term success of the reclamation of the Site will be strengthened by active community involvement during the reclamation project.

3.0 POINTS OF CONTACT

The primary point-of-contact (POC) is Mr. Jorge Munoz-Negron, the New Mexico Environmental Department (NMED) Uranium Project Lead. Secondary POCs include Kate Cardenas, the NMED Community Engagement Coordinator and Colleen Rust, the Contract Manager for EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC. These individuals' contact information is summarized in the table below:

Name	Role and Organization	E-mail	Phone Number
Jorge A. Munoz-Negron	Uranium Project Lead, NMED	jorge.munoz-negron@env.nm.gov	505-690-5897
Kate Cardenas	Community Engagement Coordinator, NMED	Kate.Cardenas@env.nm.gov	505-469-0732
Colleen Rust	Contract Manager, EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC	crust@eaeast.com	505-234-1068

Information for this project will be publicly available at the New Mexico State University at Grants:

New Mexico State University Grants Library
1500 North Third Street
Grants, New Mexico 87020
505.287.6638

Information regarding the Uranium Mine & Mill Reclamation in New Mexico can be found on the NMED website:

https://www.env.nm.gov/former-mines-mills/cleanup/

4.0 COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

4.1 Community Profile

The Site is situated approximately 1.22 air-miles west-northwest of the intersection of State Highway 509 and State Highway 605 in McKinley County, New Mexico. Approximately 50 people are located within a 5-mile radius. The economic base in this area is primarily from farming and ranching.

Demographic Information:

- Population
  - 50 people
    - White: 0.0%
    - Hispanic: 6.0%
    - Native American: 94%
    - Senior Population: 11.0%
- Per Capita Income
  - $ 12,310.00
- Primary Industry
  - Farming, ranching

4.2 Community Outreach

Program updates can be found on the NMED Uranium Mine & Mill Reclamation website listed in Section 3.0 above. Project documentation will be provided in hard copy at New Mexico State University Grants Library as listed in Section 3.0 above.

FIGURES

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Figure 1: Site Map

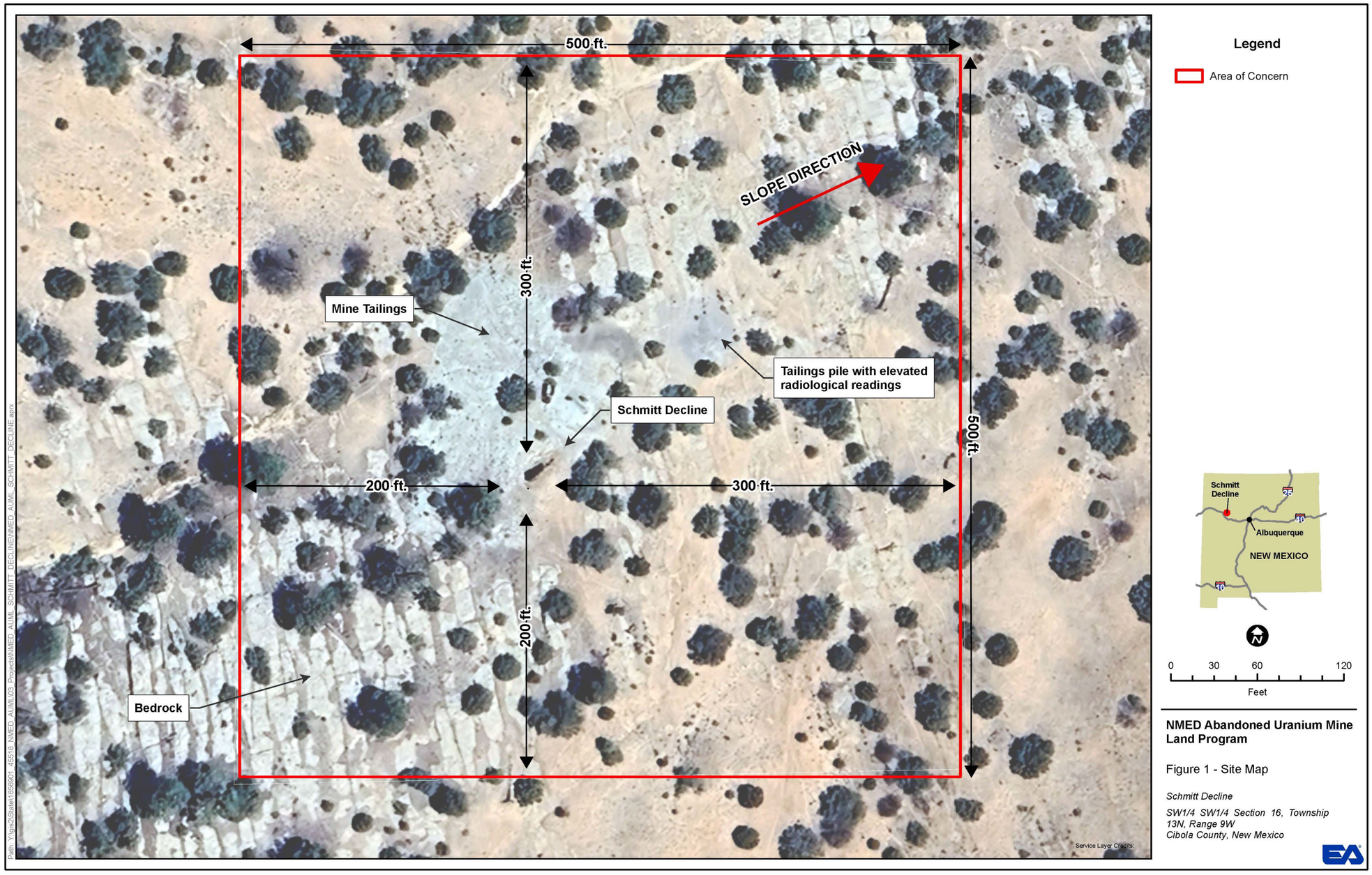

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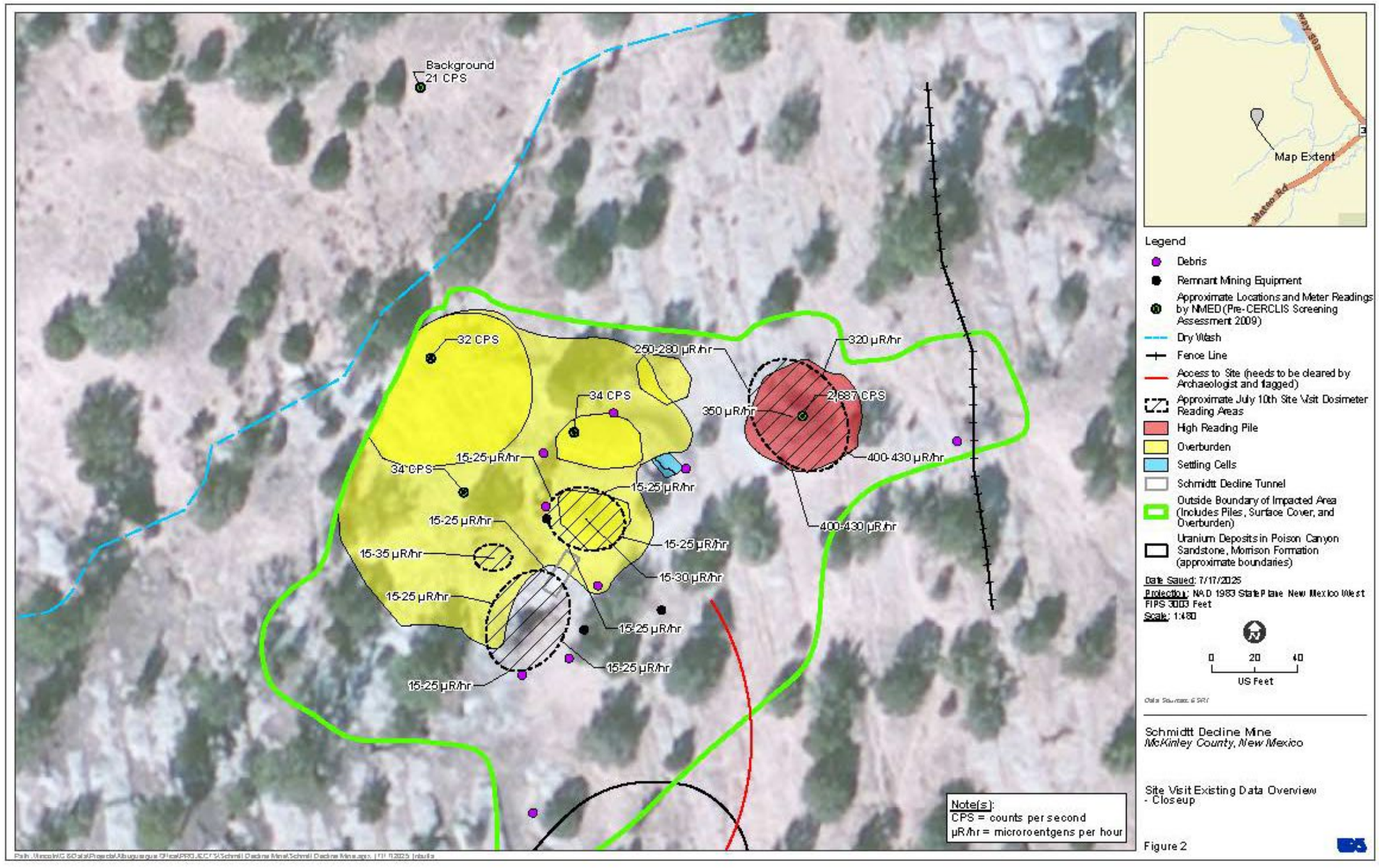
Figure 2: Site Feature Map



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