

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
SANTA FE COUNTY
RESOLUTION NO. 2019 - 107**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNTY STAFF
TO PARTICIPATE ON BEHALF OF SANTA FE COUNTY IN STATE AND
FEDERAL AGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS REGARDING THE
TERERRO MINING EXPLORATION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, on June 3, 2019, Comexico LLC (“Comexico”) submitted an Exploration Permit Application with the New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division (“MMD”) for the “Terrero”; and

WHEREAS, Comexico is a New Mexico corporation formed in December 2018 and wholly owned by New World Cobalt Ltd (“New World”), an Australian company; and

WHEREAS, New World’s website states the it “acquired the Tererro Cu-Au-Zn VMS¹ Project” on April 9, 2019, and futher states:

This acquisition provides the Company a substantial new long-term growth opportunity in a Tier-1 jurisdiction, as the project includes both a near-term development opportunity in the high-grade, gold-rich Jones Hill VMS Deposit as well as outstanding potential to discover and develop additional adjacent deposits as part of a larger VMS mining camp; [and]

WHEREAS, Tier-1 mines are purportedly low cost, large, and long-lived mines; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Tererro Project consists of dozens of unpatented mining claims on federal lands managed by the United States Forest Service (“USFS”) approximately four miles west-southwest of the Town of Tererro in the vincinity of the old Jones Mine; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Tererro Project is located within Santa Fe County (“County”); and

¹ “VMS” refers to a volcanic massive sulfide deposit.

WHEREAS, Comexico's MMD application identifies the minerals of interest as copper sulfides, gold, zinc sulfides, lead, and silver; and

WHEREAS, Comexico's MMD application states that it will drill up to thirty exploratory bore holes, that the associated drill pads will be up to 60' x 40' in area, and that there will be two plastic-lined mud pits per drill pad; and

WHEREAS, Comexico's MMD application indicates that the Tererro Exploration Project will cause a surface disturbance of approximately 2.1 acres; and

WHEREAS, MMD will conduct a public hearing on Comexico's application; and

WHEREAS, according to a USFS press release, the USFS does not intend to conduct any analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA"), because (according to the USFS) there will be no surface disturbance; and

WHEREAS, the area of the proposed Tererro Project has experienced severe environmental consequences as a result of past hardrock mining; and

WHEREAS, hardrock sulfide deposits are associated with acid mine drainage; and

WHEREAS, a large hardrock mine in the area could create 1000s of acres of surface disturbance, change residents' quality of life, negatively impact tourism and recreation, and degrade groundwater and surface water quality; and

WHEREAS, residents of Santa Fe County have expressed substantial interest in the Tererro Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to authorize County staff to participate on behalf of the County in state and federal administrative agency proceedings concerning the proposed Tererro Project, subject to the limitations set out below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board as followings:

1. County staff under the direction of the County Manager are authorized to participate on behalf of the County in state and federal agency proceedings involving the proposed Tererro Project.
2. The purpose of staff's participation will be to encourage the state and federal agencies to maximize public participation, conduct competent and complete analyses of the impacts of the proposed Project within their respective jurisdictions (including a complete NEPA analysis by the USFS to assure potential impacts are identified and mitigated), and assure that any approvals include adequate and enforceable conditions to eliminate or minimize the adverse impacts of the proposed Project to the extent of the agencies' authority.
3. The County regulates mineral exploration under its Sustainable Land Development Code, and therefore, the Board anticipates that an application will be submitted to the County in connection with the Tererro Project. Staff's participation in the state and federal agency proceedings referenced in this Resolution does not and shall not imply any prejudgement by the Board or any Commissioner, and staff's participation in such proceedings shall in no way limit the Board's discretion with regard to any application that comes before it.
4. Staff shall report to the Board regarding significant developments in the agency proceedings.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 27th DAY OF August, 2019.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

By: Anna T. Hamilton
Anna T. Hamilton, Chair

ATTEST:

Geraldine Salazar
Geraldine Salazar
Santa Fe County Clerk

Date: 8-27-2019

Approved as to form:

R. Bruce Frederick
R. Bruce Frederick
Santa Fe County Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 28TH Day Of August, 2019 at 08:53:18 AM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # **1895096**
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar
Deputy Estrella Martinez County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

SFC CLERK RECORDED 08/28/19

