

**PERMIT NO. GR020RE  
GEORGETOWN MINE  
EXISTING MINING OPERATION**

**MINING AND MINERALS DIVISION  
ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

Permit No. GR020RE is issued by the Director of the Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department to:

Sierra Corporation  
2801 Glenda Ave.  
Fort Worth, TX 76117

(Permittee) for the Georgetown Mine, located in Grant County, New Mexico.

**Section 1.                    STATUTES AND REGULATIONS**

This Permit is issued pursuant to the New Mexico Mining Act, NMSA 1978, §69-36-1, et seq. (1993)

This permit is subject to all applicable requirements of the New Mexico Mining Act (Act), New Mexico Mining Act Rules (Rules), Subparts 1-13, and any other regulations which are now or hereafter in force under the Act; and all such regulations are made a part of this Permit by this reference.

**Section 2.                    PERMIT APPLICATION PACKAGE**

The Permit Application Package (PAP) is comprised of the following documents:

- A.     Permit Application, dated July 17, 1998;
- B.     Closeout Plan, final revision dated December 4, 1998.

- F. The Permittee has paid the closeout plan permit fee of \$750, as required by §506.J.2 of the Rules.
- G. The Permittee has provided satisfactory financial assurance to complete the closeout plan in the amount of \$21,500, as required by §506.J.2 of the Rules. The financial assurance instrument is in the form of a certificate of deposit.
- H. The approved post-mining land use for the Georgetown Mine is grazing.
- I. The Secretary of Environment has provided a written determination stating that the permit Permittee has demonstrated that the activities to be permitted or authorized will be expected to achieve compliance with all applicable air, water quality and other environmental standards if carried out as described in the closeout plan, as required by §506.J.5 of the Rules.
- J. The Permittee has submitted a notarized statement signed by the Permittee that he agrees to comply with the performance and reclamation standards and requirements of the permit, Subpart 5 and the Act and allows the Director to enter the permit area without delay for the purpose of conducting inspections during mining and reclamation, as required by §503.F.5 and §506.J.6 of the Rules.

**Section 5.**                    **COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS**

The Permittee shall comply with the statutes and regulations in Section 1 and with the applicable regulatory and permitting requirements. The issuance of this permit does not relieve the permittee from the responsibility of complying with other state and federal requirements and standards.

**Section 6.**                    **AGENCY RIGHT OF ENTRY**

The Permittee shall allow the authorized representatives of the Director without advance notice or a search warrant, upon presentation of appropriate credentials, and without delay to:

- D. If the Permittee conducts exploration within the permit area, the following criteria must be met, unless otherwise provided in the closeout plan. First, all roads and drill sites will be constructed to the minimum size to safely access and conduct exploration activities. Second, all areas affected by exploration activities, including roads and drill sites, will be seeded and water bars and other sediment control structures will be constructed as appropriate to control sediment loss until areas are established with stabilizing vegetation. If the Permittee conducts exploration within the permit area which exceeds 5 acres, financial assurance shall be provided for exploration associated disturbances. During each inspection by MMD, the Permittee shall identify to the inspector any areas of new disturbance due to exploration activities made since the previous inspection. The Permittee shall also identify any areas of new disturbance due to exploration activities in each annual report submitted to MMD.

**Section 10.**                      **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- A. The Director has jurisdiction over the Permittee and the subject matter of this proceeding.
- B. The PAP is complete, accurate and complies with the requirements of the Act and §502, §503, §506 and §507.A of the Rules.
- C. The Permittee, Sierra Corporation, is permitted to conduct mining and reclamation operations at the Georgetown Mine in Grant County, New Mexico, upon the condition that the Permittee complies with the requirements of the Order, the Act, the Permit Conditions and requirements imposed by this Decision.

**ORDER**

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Permit Application of Sierra Corporation to conduct mining, closeout and reclamation operations at the Georgetown Mine in Grant County, New Mexico is approved. The Permit may not be transferred without approval by the Director. The Permit is subject to all conditions set out in the Director's Findings of Fact, Conditions, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

By Order of the Director, Mining and Minerals Division, Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, of the State of New Mexico.

Mining and Minerals Division

The State of New Mexico

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas M. Bland, Director  
Mining and Minerals Division  
Energy, Minerals and Natural  
Resources Department

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_