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22 September 2023

Kevin Barnes, Permit Lead  
Mining Act Reclamation Program  
Mining and Minerals Division (MMD)  
1220 South St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

***RE: New Minimal Impact Exploration Permit Application, Peloton Group Drolte Hole Exploration Project, Sierra County, New Mexico. Permit No. SI057EM; NMDGF Project No. NMERT-2836.***

Dear Mr. Barnes,

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (Department) has reviewed the above referenced exploration project submitted by The Peloton Group, LLC. (Peloton). Peloton is proposing to sample ores from an existing mine shaft for analysis of the copper, gold, and silver content. The mine shaft was originally constructed circa 1970. The exploration project will be located in Sections 3 and 4, Township 16S, Range 4W. Peloton proposes to use existing roads and does not plan to cause any additional surface disturbance, other than minimal earthwork to improve surface water diversion away from the mine shaft area and to control erosion. Staff from the Department, MMD, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico Environment Department, and the Operator conducted a site inspection on 14 September 2023.

The Department does not anticipate any significant impacts to wildlife or sensitive habitats from the exploration project.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed exploration project. If you have any questions, please contact Ron Kellermueller, Mining and Energy Habitat Specialist, at (505) 270-6612 or [ronald.kellermueller@dgf.nm.gov](mailto:ronald.kellermueller@dgf.nm.gov).

Sincerely,

Matt Wunder, Ph.D.  
Chief, Ecological and Environmental Planning Division  
cc: USFWS NMES Field Office