



# Office of the Mayor

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January 12, 2010

Ralph Costa  
Bureau of Land Management  
One North Central Avenue  
Suite 8000  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

RE: 2009 BLM Reclamation and Sustainable Mineral Development Awards Program

Dear Mr. Costa:

On behalf of the Town of Clarkdale, I would like to nominate Freeport-McMoRan Corporation (FMC) for the Hardrock Mineral Environmental Award for their diligence in reclaiming the United Verde Mine site. The United Verde Mine is located west of Clarkdale, in the historic mining district of Jerome, Arizona, and is the sister project of the Clarkdale Tailings, which received honors from the BLM in 2007. As the mayor of Clarkdale, I and the community I represent would like to applaud FMC's efforts to improve and protect water quality in the highly sensitive Verde Valley setting. In addition, the reclamation will substantially improve the natural beauty of the area as the vegetation matures.

During the construction phase of the United Verde project, I had the unique opportunity to work with FMC in another capacity. I am a professional photographer and I was retained by FMC to document the construction as it progressed. I also consider myself an environmentalist. Working directly on this project has given me a whole new appreciation for FMC and their people. I was truly impressed by their sensitivity to the community, attention to detail, adherence to safety protocols, and most of all their willingness to do the right thing.

Your consideration of this project is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Doug Von Gausig  
Mayor

The Historic Town of Clarkdale  
[www.clarkdale.az.gov](http://www.clarkdale.az.gov)