



1 CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

2 RESOLUTION NO. 2008-31

3 INTRODUCED BY:

4 
5
6 
7
8

9
10 A RESOLUTION

11 **URGING NEW MEXICO'S UNITED STATES SENATORS TO SUPPORT REFORMS**
12 **TO THE 1872 MINING LAW.**

13
14 **WHEREAS**, the current law governing hardrock mining on federal public lands was
15 enacted 136 years ago; and

16 **WHEREAS**, tourism and recreation are vital to a healthy economy in New Mexico; and

17 **WHEREAS**, federal law should allow state, local and tribal governments to petition to
18 have specific areas of local importance withdrawn from mining activities; and

19 **WHEREAS**, companies that extract coal, oil or gas from federal public lands pay
20 royalties ranging from 8% to 16.7%, but hardrock minerals are taken from federal lands without
21 compensation; and

22 **WHEREAS**, ensuring that federal resources exist to clean up the toxic problems of
23 previous mining mistakes and enhancing protections to avoid such mistakes in the future are two
24 other critical components of meaningful reform of the nation's hardrock mining law; and

25 **WHEREAS**, strong environmental safeguards for mining operations are also

1 fundamental to the reform of the 1872 Mining Law.

2 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
3 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that New Mexico's United States Senators are urged to protect the health
4 of our communities and diverse economies as well as our water quality, wildlife habitat, and
5 recreational lands by:

6 (1) Reforming the 1872 Mining Law to include modern environmental
7 standards, a reasonable royalty, and clear recognition that priority uses of public lands
8 have changed since 1872; and

9 (2) Properly funding as a public safety, environmental, and community
10 priority, abandoned mine clean-up and remediation with these new royalties.

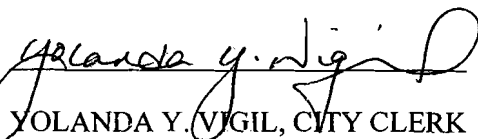
11 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governing Body directs the City Clerk to send
12 copies of this resolution to Senator Pete Domenici and Senator Jeff Bingaman.

13 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 14th day of May, 2008.

14
15 

16 DAVID COSS, MAYOR

17 ATTEST:

18
19 
20 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

21 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

22
23 
24 FRANK D. KATZ, CITY ATTORNEY

25 Jp/ca/jpmb/2008 res/mining law