

- > > opportunities and the jobs that depend on them will be lost forever.
- > > * negative impact on the local tourism based economy
- > > * noise pollution, air pollution and water contamination
- > > * increased truck traffic on local roads and highways
- > > * destruction of wildlife habitat, wildlife movement corridors,
- > > native plants and ecosystems
- > > * elimination or restriction of biking, hiking, hunting, camping,
- > > and bird watching
- > > . irreparable devastation of the scenic landscapes and viewsheds

> >

> > (2) APROPOS PROCESS:

> >

- > > * The Forest Service should NOT revise the Forest Plan to
- > > accommodate mining
- > > * The 1872 Mining Law does not require the Forest Service to revise
- > > the plan to accommodate mining
- > > * If Augusta's Mining Plan Operation (MPO) cannot meet the current
- > > standards and requirements of the Forest Plan, then the Forest Service
- > > must deny the plan.

> >

> > Ask that the process be fair!

> >

> > * Extend the time period for comments by 30 or 60 additional days.

> > (this is commonly done).

> > * Schedule additional meetings to work on the scope of the EIS.

> > * Schedule additional meetings in Vail and Sonoita, both areas with

> > major impacts from the proposed mine.

> > * Ask that Pima County, the Arizona Department of Environmental

> > Quality, and the Arizona State Office of Historic Preservation be

> > included as "cooperating agencies," at a minimum in the EIS process.

> >

> > I would also encourage you to visit the website for Save the Scenic Santa

> > Ritas: <http://www.scenicsantaritas.org/> for additional information.

> >

> > I very much hope that a large number of you will attend one of the 3

> > meetings in person and that all of you will take the time to prepare an

> > email.

> >

> > Yours sincerely,

> >

> >

> > Steve Strom

> > President, SCCF

> >

> > -----

> > sccf

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irisjim@comcast.net
03/18/2008 04:17 PM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Proposed Rosemont mine

2121

Atten: Rosemont Team Leader
Coronado National Forest

Ref: Proposed Rosemont Mine

Dear Sir:

I am a 26 year Sonoita resident recently relocated to Tucson. I was involved with the Sonoita Valley Planning Partnership for over 10 years and am familiar with many of the issues involved with the Rosemont Valley and Cienega Creek. I am opposed to the Rosemont Mine for multiple reasons. Before approval is given many issues must be resolved and I don't believe there are acceptable resolutions or mitigations for many of them.

Water is a huge issue. Davidson Canyon and Cienega Creek are incredibly important riparian areas, both for wildlife and the Tucson water supply. I know of no way this resource can be protected in perpetuity.

The ground-water supply for local residents will be seriously depleted. Yes, I'm familiar with Arizona ground-water law but that doesn't make it right! Toxins will leach out of this mine into Davidson and Cienega Creeks for decades in spite of best technology and Augusta's promises. You must resolve the above water issues before approving the Rosemont mine.

The Tucson Basin is already face with severe air pollution problems. Rosemont would add another significant pollution load to Tucson's air. Any efforts to mitigate that would require heavy applications of water which impact the Tucson AMA and Cienega and Davidson Creeks. An unsolvable "catch 22." You must resolve the air quality issue before approving the Rosemont mine.

There just is no possible mitigation to the destruction of important wildlife habitat and corridors that the mine would cause. Destruction would occur both on the mountain range and the riparian ares below.

Highway 83 is already becoming an overburdened route. Traffic levels are 50 times greater than when I moved to Sonoita and the heavy use by "wide-loads" have compounded the problem. Accident rates have increased dramatically in the past few years. Growth at the I-10 terminus is exploding. The additional heavy truck usage burden that Hwy. 83 would bear if Rosemont is put into operation would require a major multi-lane widening including building an interchange where the mine traffic entered Hwy. 83 and expanding the current interchange at the I-10 terminus. This would be a multi-million dollar effort. Rosemont should bear that burden not the taxpayers who would see no benefit but a lot more traffic hassles and delays. And it would add to the environmental damage from the mine. You must resolve the Hwy 83 traffic issue before approving the Rosemont mine.

I know minerals are where you find them but with all the new copper deposits coming on-line (i.e. Resoloution at Superior, AZ) I don't believe it is in the public interest to bring this mine on-line with the problems it would yield. But you must resolve the above listed issues if you approve the Rosemont mine.

Rosemont is one proposed mining operation that definitely should not be permitted.

Sincerely,

Jim Notestine

7721 E Lester St
Tucson, AZ 85715

irisjim@comcast.net

2122



skvmk5j@aol.com
03/18/2008 12:17 PM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Proposed Rosemont Copper Mine - Santa Rita Mountains

There is no truly positive argument that would justify even considering placing an open pit mining operation in this sensitive and beautiful location. Augusta Mining's short term economic boom can not possibly offset the disastrous long term impact on recreation, wildlife habitat, and ground water resources that this proposed encroachment would have. The Forest Service should not consider revising the Forest Plan to accommodate this narrow special interest to the detriment of the rest of us, especially those who live close to and cherish this area.

Please do consider extending the comment period to allow more time for public input, as this decision is an important one that will have profound impacts on the entire region; impacts that will extend beyond our lifetimes.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment,

Susan K Valdivia
Tucson, Az.

Supercharge your AIM. Get the [AIM toolbar](#) for your browser.

2123



Melinda Hayes
<hayesmm@hughes.ne
t>

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject:

03/18/2008 11:04 AM
Please respond to
Melinda Hayes

Dear Sirs;

How can destroying entire canyons by filling them even been considered? The damage will be irreparable. Beyond the esthetics the risks to water supply, air quality and other pollution is huge. Highway 83 is a scenic highway not a mining road.

I could go on and on, but the point is that I MOST STRONGLY OPPOSE the Rosemont mining proposal.

Melinda M Hayes M.D.
Sonoita, AZ

2124



"Orlando, Paul "
<porlando@cherrycreek
radio.com>

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: mining

03/18/2008 09:55 AM
Please respond to
porlando

I wish to go on record as personally opposing the Rosemont mining operation in the Santa Rita mountains. The mining laws which make such an operation possible should be repealed, as well. The Tucson area will benefit from having the open space forever much more than having a mine for a period. Furthermore, I believe that it is readily apparent that very few mining operations actually leave no pollution and no scar, in spite of what they may promise.

They have proven themselves as less than trustworthy. Of course, our own government appears to be in league with them at times. I trust the federal agencies who are supposed to be the watch dogs over this process as little as I trust the mining companies. In essence, I say "LEAVE THE SANTA RITA'S ALONE!".

Paul Orlando
7580 Rockwood Drive
Hereford, AZ 85615

520-459-0281

2125



"WILLIAM C
THORNTON"
<cactusworld@msn .co
m>

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Mine

03/18/2008 09:49 AM

To Whom it May Concern: As a conservationist and native Arizonan I oppose the development of an open pit mine in the Santa Rita Mountains .

Copper must be produced somewhere but our public lands have value beyond the commodities that can be extracted from them. The "benefits" of this proposal must be weighed against the long term cost of a degraded environment, and depleted aquifer that will remain long after the copper is gone.

Far too much of southern Arizona has already been lost to unsustainable development. Please don't add another of our special places to the list. Please say no to the Rosemont Mine.

William C. Thornton
2955 E. Chula Vista Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85716
E-mail: Cactusworld@msn.com

2126



Pjbonthron@aol.com
03/26/2008 02:18 PM

To beverson@fs.fed.us
cc
bcc
Subject Letter Re Rosemont mine

Attached is a letter regarding the Rosemont mine. We will also send you a hard copy in the mail tomorrow.

Gunnar and Peggy Bonthron



Create a Home Theater Like the Pros. [Watch the video on AOL Home.](#) Forest Service Letter.doc

**GUNNAR & PEGGY BONTHRON
421 NORTH MOUNTAIN BROOK DRIVE
GREEN VALLEY, ARIZONA 85614
520-399-1886**

March 27, 2008

Beverly Everson
USDA Forest Service
Coronado National Forest
300 West Congress Street
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Subject: Proposed Rosemont Mine

Dear Ms. Everson:

We have been following the proposed Rosemont Mine efforts and attending your recent public meetings. We wanted to attend these meetings and move around the crowds so we could hear first-hand input from the various communities. I am sure you found out, as we did, that there is strong opposition for this large mine being allowed in this area. People here are so stressed that our government, and your government agency, would allow such a thing like this to happen based upon the looming water shortage we are facing here. Many people that we spoke with said, "The Forest Service has already made up their mind to allow this mine to operate, these meetings are only window-dressing." We truly hope that this is not the case.

We hope you will take the time to read this entire letter and have a better understanding of the facts and what Green Valley/Sahuarita may be facing in just a few years as it relates to our water shortage.

As you well know, we have been in a drought situation for the past 10 years in Arizona. In many areas, more groundwater is being pumped than being replaced. This holds especially true in the Green Valley area. We have been in an overdraft situation for many years. For FY 2006, we had an overdraft of 40,000 AF. We have not received the figures for 2007, but it will be more than that because of the massive groundwater pumping by the copper mine, the pecan grove and golf courses. All are demanding more water due to higher temperatures in the summer and less rainfall. This is not a fantasy, but real facts. Note: When Sierra Vista had an annual overdraft of just over 4,000 AF, everyone got into a panic and wanted to address the issue, and did. Green Valley area has

an overdraft of over 40,000 AF annually, and no one seems to really care. There has been a lot of talk, but no sound action. Every day/month/year that goes by, only compounds the severity of the groundwater crisis. Government agencies and politicians perceive that we are all over 65 and maybe have less than 10-12 years, so why bother. Then a new group of retirees will move to town and we can continue to fool them for a while longer.

In 1998 when the Malcolm Pirnie Report was published, everyone knew (DWR, Pima County, copper mine, pecan grove) if we did not begin some type of groundwater recharge, the area was going to be in trouble. The proposed CAP pipeline was presented that would extend from Pima Mine Road to the Canoa Ranch area. Phelps Dodge and FICO (pecan grove) decided it was cheaper to pump groundwater, rather than do the right thing and they forfeited the offer of 23,000 AF of CAP water annually. Also, they did not want to assist financially with the extension of the pipeline. It is not up to the taxpayers to pay this bill, as the copper mine and pecan grove pump 85% of our groundwater from this basin. Everyone has gone along their merry way, hoping no one would find out the truth, just pumping and pumping our groundwater. They had the wells and grandfathered rights and no one could touch them. The politicians are afraid to do the right thing, as the lobbyist are very powerful and votes are more important than taking care of the people of Green Valley.

Over the past 25 months, there have been several groups here in Green Valley working together trying to determine just what are we facing, as the government agencies and politicians have completely let us down. The statistics on our looming water crisis in this basin are absolutely frightening.

First, we will address the Sierrita Mine (Phelps Dodge). From 1987 to 2006, this mine has pumped over 505,000 AF of groundwater from the old Canoa Ranch area. That equates to 23 million gallons per day. As we all know, there has been no means of recharge in the area except what small amount flows down the Santa Cruz River and rainfall. You just cannot pump that much groundwater, and not replenish it, without there being serious subsidence. Well guess what, that has started to happen. In the Canoa Verde and Canoa Azul area of Canoa Ranch, there are approximately eight homes, plus one swimming pool, that has faced serious foundation problems. It is only a matter of time before that whole area sinks maybe 4 to 9 feet. Further, that area has many golf courses, and they pump 600,000 gallons per day/per golf course.

Now, let's look at the area where the Rosemont mine will be pumping. In that area, well owners are already facing declines in the water levels. We

personally met a gentleman that lives off of Sahuarita Road where his well has dropped 60 feet in the past five years. In the next year, he will have to drill another well to the tune of over \$14,000 to secure a water supply (and for how long). You people must factor in the human consequences of what this new mine will create for all the well owners in that area.

Groundwater in this area flows from the Nogales area towards Marana. We already have less water coming down the Santa Cruz River (helps to recharge the Canoa area). Now if the new copper mine begins to draw down the groundwater in the Sahuarita area, it could possibly deplete the water in the Green Valley area even further. As that water level goes down, the Green Valley water would begin to flow towards Sahuarita at a faster rate. Groundwater knows no boundaries, there are no gates down there to tell it to stay here. So as the Green Valley area is receiving less water from the south, so could we further lose our groundwater faster to the north if the Sahuarita table begins to decline. And, it will. The only thing we do not know is when, but it will be sooner, rather than later. In possibly less than 10 years, how do you tell people 75 years of age and older that they have to go and get bottled water. Many are crippled and some with no means of transportation. Further, maybe they can only flush their toilets for two hours a day when the water is turned on. What do we do when the small water companies in Green Valley close their doors (there are six water companies here) because they cannot afford to drill deeper or dig new wells (not knowing how long that water will last). I have personally seen this happen, and believe me it is not a pretty picture. It cost the State of California and a County millions and millions to correct a problem that could have been prevented.

The National Environmental Policy Act, Section 101, Paragraph B pertains to Rosemont's activities of transporting groundwater away from Sahuarita that would interfere with the natural balance of the environments ability to maintain critical water levels for the overall development and welfare of the community. Rosemont's transportation of groundwater from Sahuarita, which is already suffering from groundwater depletion and subsidence, may cause a risk to health and safety of the residents with undesirable consequences to the community (wells drying up and property becoming worthless) and Rosemont's transportation of our groundwater could dramatically affect future growth in the community.

IF YOU APPROVE FOR THE ROSEMONT MINE TO GO INTO PRODUCTION, THEY SHOULD ONLY BE ALLOWED TO USE **CAP WATER (NO GROUNDWATER)**. REMEMBER, THIS IS A FOREIGN COMPANY THAT WILL BE REMOVING OUR PRECIOUS METAL TO BE SHIPPED OVERSEAS. WHY IN THE WORLD WOULD WE ALLOW THEM

(FOREIGN ENTITY) TO DESTROY OUR GROUNDWATER BASIN. WHAT ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF DISPLACING AROUND 50,000 RESIDENTS IF OUR WATER SUPPLY ERODES. PLUS THE HOMES IN THIS BASIN WOULD BECOME WORTHLESS.

If you want proof of our groundwater overdraft in this basin, contact the Department of Water Resources, Pima County Flood Control and the Pima County Board of Supervisors.

We have been hoping that our State government would step in and see the urgency of this matter. The State of Arizona is at a crossroads. If the State wants mining, then they must stop residential growth. You cannot have it both ways. With the threat of less CAP water and the drought continuing for maybe 15 years, proper planning must begin today, not years from now for a sustainable water supply. It is totally unfair to lure retirees into this area, knowing our water dilemma, and where they (retirees) may lose their home and have a financial disaster, just because of powerful lobbyist, a very outdated mining law that most politicians are afraid to address because of the money for their war chest.

The Federal government has an obligation to make a sound decision. You must look at the facts and what is happening to our groundwater basin. This just cannot be ignored.

We are going to contact 20/20, Dateline, Lou Dobbs and all media outlets to try and get this story told to the entire United States. We must protect our retirees and stop others from coming here and possibly losing a lot of their retirement money. The State of Arizona should be ashamed of itself for issuing the 100 Year Guaranteed Water Certificates. Politicians, and government officials, need to start being accountable. We will not sit here and just let our community be destroyed because of greed. We will not rest until this matter is presented to the country and large media outlets. The worst part of this is that the damage will be done by a foreign company and the copper going to another country. We are also distributing this letter to our politicians so they cannot use the excuse, when there is an emergency, that they did not know there was a problem or no one informed them of this groundwater overdraft.

Should you care to meet with us, we have all of the hard data to confirm what we are saying.

Gunnar and Peggy Bonthron
Concerned citizens of Green Valley and
representing over 700 couples

COPIES TO:

Governor Janet Napolitano

Senator Jon Kyl

Senator John McCain

Senator Tim Bee

Congresswoman Gabrielle Gifford

Congressman Raul Grijalva

Arizona Corporation Commission

Pima County Board of Supervisors

Department of Water Resources

Green Valley Recreation

Green Valley Community Coordinating Council

All Media Outlets

2126



Kimiekgill@aol.com
03/17/2008 12:37 PM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Copper project

The Tucson area is expanding at an unprecedented rate. Wild and open spaces are swiftly being obliterated by development and sprawl. I urge you to protect these last bastions of wildlands and the plants and wildlife they sustain. We do not need further environmental degradation in the outlying lands in the greater Tucson area. Please do not allow the Rosemont Copper project to become a reality. It will only lead to further air and water pollution and will appear as a blight on this precious tract of natural lands.

Sincerely,
Kim Gill
3427 E. Choctaw Dr.
Sierra Vista, AZ 85650
520-452-9156
kimiekgill@aol.com

It's Tax Time! [Get tips, forms and advice on AOL Money & Finance.](#)

2127



"Mikey Block"
<mikey@mikeyblock.com>
03/19/2008 04:37 PM

To <beverson@fs.fed.us>
cc <rahern@fs.fed.us>
bcc

Subject Rosemont Mine, Pima County, AZ

Dear Ms. Everson,

I sent a letter to Mr. Ahern too.

He responded to me and also indicated that for my letters, etc. to be recognized, I need to include a mailing address. Therefore, I have modified my attached letter to include my mailing address and I will include it in this E-mail, as well.

Thanking you, in advance and also my thanks to Mr. Ahern for his correspondence.

Sally Reichardt
HC1, Box 999
Sonoita, Az 85637
E-mail: bsrsvn@azwildblue.com

This particular E-mail is being sent from work.



Rosemont Mine letter.doc

2128



Jeanine Derby/R3/USDAFS
03/20/2008 10:35 AM

To Beverley A Everson/R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES
cc
bcc
Subject Fw: Rosemount Mine

Jeanine Derby, Forest Supervisor
Coronado National Forest
phone: 520 388-8306
FAX: 520 388-8305

----- Forwarded by Jeanine Derby/R3/USDAFS on 03/20/2008 10:35 AM -----



"Richard Salzetti"
<Rsalzetti@cox.net>
03/20/2008 10:24 AM

To <jderby@fs.fed.us>
cc
Subject Rosemount Mine

As a resident of the area where the mine will be developed if approved I would like to go on record to highlight a few items that need to be considered. First, where is the water going to come from that will be used by the mine if approved. If it is from wells in the area surrounding the mine what impact will that have on the water residents in the draw from wells in the same general area. If a replacement source of water is not brought in by the mine for the duration of the mining operation the approval should not occur. Perhaps you are not aware but we do have a growing water shortage in the area and drawing out more water than what is replaced is not a good idea. Perhaps your home may suffer the consequences of either no water or a major reduction of water usage due to the mine using available water. Think about that possibility for perhaps yourself and other residents in that area. Second, ALL COMMUNITIES AND WATER COMPANIES AFFECTED BY THE DRAW DOWN OF WATER BY THE MINE SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE DECISION AS ALL WILL BE EFFECTED IN SOME WAY. Last item, The mine has developed local advertising on the merits of the mine and one is they will provide money to develop or create or help create areas to preserve the natural habitat of a area. It seems to me they could do that by not destroying land that is now in it's natural state and it would create more good will than developing a mine and then trying to pacify residents by giving a dollar or two to create a park or a few acres of natural growth land that is already in its natural state. Thank You Richard Salzetti

2129

Mailroom R3 Coronado
Sent by: Karina Montez

03/21/2008 08:28 AM

To: Beverley A Everson/R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES

cc

bcc

Subject: Re: Fw: (OC): Rosemont Mine Santa Rita Mountains Tucson

Karen Terney



Karen Terney
03/19/2008 10:05 AM

To: mailroom_r3_coronado@fs.fed.us

cc:

Subject: Fw: (OC): Rosemont Mine Santa Rita Mountains Tucson

The comment below was sent to the Washington Office.

Karen Terney - Writer/Editor
Ecosystem Management Coordination
202-205-1732
fax 202-205-1012

----- Forwarded by Karen Terney/WO/USDAFS on 03/19/2008 01:03 PM -----

Mailroom WO
Sent by: Vania Ochoa

03/19/2008 12:55 PM

To: Karen Terney/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES

cc

Subject: Re: (OC): Rosemont Mine Santa Rita Mountains Tucson

<johnsconner@yahoo.com>



<johnsconner@yahoo.com>

03/18/2008 09:45 PM
Please respond to
johnsconner

To: mailroom_wo@fs.fed.us

cc:

Subject: (OC): Rosemont Mine Santa Rita Mountains Tucson

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted on:
Tuesday, March 18th, 2008 at 9:45pm.

From: john conner <johnsconner@yahoo.com>
subject: Rosemont Mine Santa Rita Mountains Tucson
comment: I am a resident of Tucson Arizona. I am opposed to giving approval to mining in the Santa Rita mountains. I find it absurd that a beautiful part of Southern Arizona. I have hiked in this area and know it is a wonderful area and a reason why; people live and visit here. The National Forest Service should not approve mining here.

Thank you for your consideration.

----- Submission Details -----

Remote Address: 63.210.142.18

HTTP User Agent: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 6.0; Windows NT 5.0; .NET CLR
1.1.4322; .NET CLR 2.0.50727)

2130



"Richard Calabro"
<r.a.calabro@att.net>

03/28/2008 11:03 AM

Please respond to
"Richard Calabro"
<r.a.calabro@att.net>

To "Beverly Everson" <beverson@fs.fed.us>

cc

bcc

Subject Mar 28 '08 Article Attached.

Dear Beverly,

Today's story in the Tucson Citizen is more detail on the EIS Scoping meeting on Tuesday, March 18, at Desert Vista in Tucson. Please help the local communities in any way possible to save the scenic Santa Rita mountains from this proposed 3rd to 4th largest open pit copper mine in the U.S. A hole one mile in diameter and a half mile deep. Deny them their request for the 3,670 acres of our public National Forest land they want for their tailings. It clearly violates the Coronado National Forest Plan. There is far better public use of this land.

Sincerely yours,

Richard A. Calabro
3055 S. Placita Del Avestruz
Green Valley, AZ 85614-1000
Tel. 520 648-0624
Fax 520 648-0647
e-mail: r.a.calabro@att.net

----- Original Message -----

From: Ccook520@aol.com

To: Ccook520@aol.com

Sent: Friday, March 28, 2008 8:32 AM

Subject: Proposed Rosemont Project- Bussing People to meeting at Desert Vista- Article

Article in 03-28-08 Tucson Citizen on the bussing of people to the Desert Vista proposed Rosemont/Forest Service meeting. Several of EFC members were at this meeting and saw all these people getting off the bus. I was there but did not know these details. This is sadder than I thought.



<http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/ss/local/80975.php> Augusta Busing Stunt.doc

Denogean: Stunt pulled by mining firm just shameless

ANNE T. DENOGEAN Tucson Citizen

The woman from Rosemont Copper who appeared at the door of the South Side apartment shared by Olivia Aguilar and Willie Hill about two weeks ago must have seemed like the answer to a prayer.

She wasn't there to sell them anything, she promised. She wanted to talk to the two, both of whom happen to be recently unemployed, about high-paying jobs for Tucsonans. All they had to do was be treated to dinner by Rosemont and attend a meeting. If they didn't have a ride, the company would provide one.

Aguilar, 25, and Hill, 31, were excited but completely unaware that they were about to be part of a shameless stunt by Rosemont to pack a March 18 public hearing in Tucson with shuttled-in, sham supporters of its plans to mine the Santa Rita Mountains.

Before the hearing held by the U.S. Forest Service as part of an environmental impact statement on the proposed copper mine, Rosemont representatives went knocking on doors at various locations, including the sprawling apartment complex on South Campbell Avenue near the airport.

The "community outreach team," as Rosemont calls it, was rounding up "supporters" to appear on the company's behalf.

The pitch was less than straightforward. Aguilar and Hill, who are raising four children and paid this month's rent with tax refund money, said they thought they were being recruited for mine jobs. They didn't know there are no jobs now and won't be for at least two years.

"They frigging lied so they could get our damn signatures on that list," Aguilar said.

Supervisor Ray Carroll, the most vocal opponent of Rosemont, is disgusted. Rosemont took advantage of people who are struggling to make it in a tough economy and thought it would get away "with treating them like they are so dumb that they wouldn't figure it out," he said this week.

Aguilar and Hill drove themselves to the dinner at Bennigan's, which Hill estimated was attended by 50 to 75 people.

The couple also recruited Hill's sister, another job-seeker, to attend.

Aguilar noticed that nobody was taking applications. The only reference to jobs was a suggestion to leave a résumé with a company representative before heading in their own vehicles or in one of the shuttles provided by organizers to the public meeting at Pima Community College's Desert Vista campus.

Hill walked into the meeting at Desert Vista with a full belly, a hopeful attitude and a company-provided button reading "ROSEMONT COPPER, Great Jobs, Great Benefits" pinned to his shirt. He was immediately greeted with a disparaging remark by a mine opponent that made him realize he had walked into a political fight that he knew nothing about and in which he had no interest.

Though Hill laughed as he told the story, his disappointment was clear.

"I just wanted a job, a good job, to take care of my family," he said.

Juan Rascón, a mine opponent who attended the hearing, said he noticed the people coming off the buses. They were mostly young, including couples who brought their children with them, and predominantly Hispanic, he said. He estimated there were at least 100 people.

"It was quite an impressive show of force," Rascón said.

Rascón said organizers appeared to be moving them in and out of the meeting in an orderly manner - having them sign the green public comment sheets indicating their support for Rosemont and return to the waiting buses.

He said at least one person wearing a Rosemont button had the impression that signing the green sheets was required to get on a job list.

Rascón said Rosemont's tactics reminded him of Mexican political parties combing the countryside and offering hats and blankets to poor farmers to show up at political rallies.

The mine "supporters" he spoke to knew little about Rosemont, but clearly "were there with the dream of getting one of these jobs."

The ones that don't exist.

Rascón, who said he had been a silent opponent of the mine, was so angry he approached Jamie Sturgess, Rosemont's vice president of sustainable development, to give him a message.

"As of tonight, you've lit me up, you've transformed me," he said.

He wasn't alone. Aguilar and Hill stayed to learn more and didn't like what they heard about the proposed mine's possible impact on water supplies and the environment. "As soon as we found out what was going on, we were taking off our buttons," Aguilar said.

On March 19, Sturgess apologized for the confusion in a written statement but defended Rosemont's "community outreach" efforts.

Jan Howard, a spokeswoman with Strongpoint, Rosemont's public relations group, said in a phone interview Wednesday that dinner was offered because the meeting was at the dinner hour and asked what was wrong with providing rides to people. She said Rosemont brought in no more than a couple of dozen supporters. And, she said, Rosemont's intent was to inform people of the potential benefits of the mine, not to mislead people about jobs.

"Sometimes people hear what they want to hear," she said.

Really? Aguilar gave me two informational sheets left with her by the Rosemont rep. One, to be fair, described the environmental impact statement process.

The other - the attention grabber - looked like what you pick up at a job fair. The "Rosemont Copper Career Opportunities" sheet talked about its plans to employ 500 people. The paper detailed the types and numbers of jobs that will be available. It promised a generous benefits package and noted that experienced workers in Arizona's copper industry earn an average of \$59,000 a year.

Rosemont, along with its parent company, Canadian-based Augusta Resource Corp., has made lots of promises to southern Arizona, all of which boil down to a pledge to be a good corporate citizen.

To put it bluntly, this cheap attempt to corrupt the public hearing process reflects poorly on the ethics and corporate character of Rosemont. And it earned it at least two new opponents.

Before Aguilar and Hill left the March 18 hearing, they made a point of signing a petition against the mine.

Anne T. Denogean can be reached at adenogean@tucsoncitizen.com and at 573-4582. Her columns run Tuesdays and Fridays.



"Dick Shuman"
<shumans2@cox.net>
03/30/2008 12:05 PM

To "Everson, Beverly" <beverson@fs.fed.us>, "Derby, Jeanine" <jderby@fs.fed.us>
cc "Gabrielle Giffords" <maura.policelli@mail.house.gov>, "GVCCC" <gvccc@theriver.com>, "Hall, E. L. (Ned)" <ned_hall@fmi.com>, "Miller, Tom" <jmiller5531@cox.net>, "Houser, Kenneth L." <khouser@swco.com>

bcc

Subject ROSEMONT COPPER PROJECT EIS

To: Ms Jeanine A. Derby, Forest Supervisor
Ms Beverley Everson, Forest Geologist
USDA Forest Service,
Coronado National Forest
300 W. Congress
Tucson, AZ 85701
Subject: Rosemont Copper Project EIS

Attached is a letter in word.doc format requesting that a community work group be established to participate in the EIS process, and that the community of Green Valley be represented in this group.

We are suggesting that Green Valley Community Coordinating Council be utilized in representing Green Valley.

Dick Shuman, PE
Casa Paloma I Homeowners, Inc.
Environmental Coordinator



Ph: (520) 648-0445 Email shumans2@cox.net USDA Community Group EIS Representative..doc

**Casa Paloma I Homeowners, Inc.
P. O. Box 411
Green Valley, AZ 85622**

March 30, 2008

To: Ms Jeanine A. Derby, Forest Supervisor
Ms Beverley Everson, Forest Geologist
USDA Forest Service,
Coronado National Forest
300 W. Congress
Tucson, AZ 85701
Subject: Rosemont Copper Project EIS

At the March 19, 2008 Open House in Green Valley, I discussed with Jeanine Derby, Beverly Everson, and Kenneth Houser (SWCA) the need to establish a Community Advisory Group to oversee the planning and execution of the EIS. This group would consist of qualified citizens living in communities that would be affected by the Rosemont Mine.

Subsequently, I have read Senator Gifford's statement that the Forest Service has agreed that *"A community work group will be established to participate in the EIS process. A work group will be convened to provide community and technical input throughout the process. This group will include representatives of appropriate public agencies, members of affected communities, and my staff. The group will be charged with assuring that all specific public concerns relevant to the project are raised and addressed in the EIS."*

We believe that this approach is necessary and will work well in building trust and avoiding contention. This approach was taken several years ago as a condition of an ADEQ consent agreement with Phelps Dodge in Green Valley and has served well in resolving a highly contentious issue of aquifer contamination. For further information you may contact ADEQ or Ned Hall - Chief Environmental Engineer - Environment, Land & Water Department - Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Sierrita Operations Office: (520) 648-8857 Cell: (520) 235-4089

We request that our Green Valley Community be represented on this group. We have concern that the Rosemont Mine will irreversibly harm our community and believe that no governmental agency should be in a position to approve a plan that will knowingly cause harm to our community in time of crisis.

We believe that the Green Valley Community Coordinating Council (GVCCC) is in the best position to represent, or choose representation for our community. GVCCC is a de facto governance entity with 66 separate Homeowners Association members representing more than 90% of all residents and with 21 local organizations and businesses as institutional members. (see <http://www.gvccc.org>). Tom Miller, Chairman of the GVCC Environmental Committee may be contacted at Phone 520-648-1936 for further information.

Under no circumstances should a large water consumer such as Rosemont Mine be approved while Our Green Valley Aquifer is in a state of crisis and mitigating plans are proceeding.

Respectfully,

s/ Dick Shuman

Dick Shuman, PE

Casa Paloma I Homeowners, Inc.

Environmental Coordinator

Ph: (520) 648-0445 Email shumans2@cox.net

(Dick Shuman is also a member of the GVCC Environmental Committee, Citizens Water Action Coalition, and Freeport-McMoRan [formerly Phelps Dodge] Community Advisory Group)



"David P. Tiers"
<dptiers@mindspring.com>
03/31/2008 04:23 PM

To <beverson@fs.fed.us>
cc
bcc
Subject Rosemont Copper

Please put me on the mailing list for all matters pertaining to the Rosemont Copper Mine development in the Coronado National Forest.
Thanks.

David Tiers
4107 N. Cactus Blvd.
Tucson, AZ 85716



"Annie McGreevy"
<anniemcgreevy@gmail.com
>

03/18/2008 12:17 PM

To "Beverley A Everson" <beverson@fs.fed.us>, "Jeanine
Derby" <JDerby@fs.fed.us>, "Andrea W Campbell"
<awcampbell@fs.fed.us>

cc

bcc

Subject More Scoping meetings in Tucson

Hello all,

Please hold MORE Scoping meetings in midtown Tucson, at least 2 more for those who can't attend tonight. Rosemont mine is a huge concern to Pima County residents. The format should be Forest Service speakers in front so that all can hear the all the questions and all the answers.

Annie McGreevy



"Dick Shuman"
<shumans2@cox.net>
03/18/2008 04:30 PM

To "Derby, Jeanine" <jderby@fs.fed.us>, "Everson, Beverly"
<beverson@fs.fed.us>, "Campbell, Andrea"
<awcampbell@fs.fed.us>

cc

bcc

Subject Rosemont EIS Open House March 18, 2007 in Green Valley

Jeanine Derby, Forest Supervisor
Coronado National Forest

I am upset about two aspects of subject open house in Green Valley

1. The short notice appearing in the Arizona Star (6 days).
2. I was not notified directly. I understood that I was on your notification list of any public notices or information.

I have the following question.

Will the two documents I submitted to you need to be resubmitted? Are they part of the comment record?

These are the letters I submitted on November 12 and December 30, 2007 under the subject of File Code 2810 Rosemont Plan of Operation.

In my letter of November 12, I requested that Rosemont be requested to make a comprehensive hydrological study of our aquifer to determine the exact impact that Rosemont pumping will have on our community. Has Rosemont been requested to do this?

Respectfully,
Dick Shuman, PE
Casa Paloma I Homeowners, Inc.
Environmental Coordinator
Ph: (520) 648-0445 Email shumans2@cox.net



"Peter Ott"
<pott@shc.arizona.edu>
03/19/2008 10:09 AM

To <beverson@fs.fed.us>
cc
bcc

Subject Rosemont paying people to support the mine

I attended last night's (3/18) US forest service meeting on the Rosemont mine project
I am against this mine and have stated so in several occasions

It was appalling to see that Rosemont bussed people in, after having treated them to a dinner,
made them sign petitions in support of the mine and make them wear Rosemont badges I
spoke to several of these individuals they clearly had no idea of the issues at hand and simply
enjoyed an evening of "wining and dining".

I would expect a US government agency to disallow such obvious manipulation of the hearing
process.

Peter Ott, M.D., FACC

Director of Electrophysiology Laboratory and Arrhythmia Services
at University of Arizona Health Sciences Center, Sarver Heart Center

Phone: 520-626-6358

Fax: 520-626-4333

Physician line: 520-694-5868



"Mikey Block"
<mikey@mikeyblock.com>
03/19/2008 04:01 PM

To <beverson@fs.fed.us>
cc
bcc

Subject Augusta Resources "Rosemont Mine", Pima County, AZ

Dear Ms. Everson,

Please see my attached letter.

Thank you.

Sally Reichardt



E-mail: bsrsvn@azwildblue.com Rosemont Mine letter.doc

March 18, 2008

Coronado National Forest
Beverly Everson
300 West Congress Street
Tucson, Arizona
85701

Re: Augusta Resources proposed "Rosemont Mine"

Dear Ms. Everson,

I write to you, as a native Tucsonan, who is currently living in Sonoita and who is extremely concerned about the proposed Rosemont Mine. As a child, our family had very little money so we found camping on Mt. Lemmon to be a very inexpensive family vacation. I always thought that our National forests were for the enjoyment of the taxpayers. Apparently, I am wrong. The Coronado National Forest will become a dumping site of waste rock and tailings. Hundreds of acres paid for and enjoyed by American taxpayers will be destroyed by a foreign registered company scheduled to ship the majority of the mined copper outside of the United States.

I continue to hear, as I did throughout my entire childhood, how precious our water supply is; so precious that we had peak hours that we shouldn't water during. I now read, in Augusta's Rosemont Mine feasibility study that "Water quantities are limited and environmentally sensitive in the region of the Rosemont mine". Further, the study says: "fresh water makeup is 4.8 million gallons per day". Wow! It seems to me that the wells in the surrounding areas/towns will quickly run dry. Their study goes on to say "Property for other well locations are currently being acquired for the other 2,000 gpm requirement".

The study also states that "State Route 83 can be used to gain access to the plant road" and "This system of interstates and highway will allow for quick access to the site". I beg to differ. It will be far from "quick" access. Hwy. 83, as you know, is a two lane road with several windy areas. One such curve has one of the highest accident rates and, I believe, *the* highest rate in the State for motorcycles. We already have 18 wheelers using Hwy. 83 as a detour route because the bridge on I-10 to the East of Hwy. 83 is too short. We currently have many wide loads which require us to pull off to the side of the road and "wait". Last week, I had to pull over for four separate wide loads and that was just between Rosemont Junction & I-10. Several of our highway patrol cars are involved with these wide loads. Augusta said for the first two (or thereabouts) years, they will be running wide loads every 10 minutes. Nobody will be able to use this section of Hwy. 83. It will make travel impossible. The school busses will not be able to get the kids to school. The Patagonia-Sonoita Scenic (2nd oldest in Arizona) Hwy. sign will need to be taken down. Nobody, including bicyclists, motorcyclists and tourists will be able to travel from Tucson to the wineries, Tombstone, Parker Lake, Patagonia Lake or Patagonia, via Hwy. 83, thus, hurting tourism and the revenues of small businesses.

This mine, if built, will be seen from many miles away and their tailings will actually be located in the backyard of an existing neighborhood on Coronado National Forest property. Additionally, per their feasibility study, the mine will be "working two 12-hour shifts per day, seven days per week, 52 weeks per year". Property values in Sonoita, Patagonia and all of the surrounding areas, for hundreds of miles will plummet.

Add to the above, that this mine will only employ 327 people and a mine life of 18.2 years. It's no wonder that the Board of Supervisors voted to oppose this project. Not to mention that there's no guarantee, of course, that the mine won't go belly up in two years like some recent mines in the U.S. have. The proposed mine property contains many very, very old Oak trees and is one of the most pristine lands we have. If anyone believes that the mine can put this land back to anything close to what it is now, they are just dead wrong. It's impossible. The proposed mining site will destroy this area forever.

Contrary to what Augusta would have you believe, there is huge opposition to this mine. I urge you to consider the destruction of the Santa Ritas and Coronado National Forest by this open pit copper mine, as a travesty of the public trust and to reject the Rosemont Copper proposal.

Sincerely,

Sally Reichardt

E-mail: bsrsvn@azwildblue.com



tim storer
<timstorer@cox.net>
03/18/2008 09:09 AM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: rosemont mine

I would like to comment on the proposed mine. The first comment regards the logistics of the location. Unlike other mines in Arizona, for instance the one north of San Manuel, they are located in remote areas with little traffic and congestion. The mining vehicles have all the space they need, for roads and storage areas. It is important to add that they were built decades ago before the bulk of development of the past 25 years throughout Arizona. The Rosemont mine is located in a more highly developed area. This area, as opposed to the area above San Manuel, is highly prized by people for its beauty, its oak trees and densely vegetated canyons. I might point out that the scenic overlook on this road from Tucson to Sonoita is right above the proposed mine site and the view is one of the most photographed in Southern Arizona. The road itself is marked by the State as a scenic highway, and the mine site is a jewel. The mine will completely destroy the aesthetic beauty of the Rosemont Valley, with its scenic overlook, which has given generations of Arizonans such pleasure.

There is a logistical problem involved with the mine proposal. As stated above, the area is highly developed with residential properties, and the Forest Service needs to take a critical look at the amount of traffic on the Scenic Highway to Sonoita. As a resident, I drive this road to Tucson three times per week, as do many residents, and there is no way we won't be heavily affected in our businesses by the mining activity. The projected mine traffic cannot be handled by the existing road, and still allow residents to go about their business in a timely way. And I object to the destruction of what is a marked Scenic Highway. Logistically the mine is not feasible.

The third comment involves the wastes from the mine and the pollution of the arroyo leading from the mine site down to the Davidson canyon drainage. I ask the Forest Service to do a complete environmental analysis of the long term effects on the ecosystem, and to deny a mining permit if damages are sustained.

Finally, I want to let you know that I walked the proposed mine site with a group of people last year. We talked with the geology company employee there who was packing up to leave the site. He told us that his company report to Augusta Resources was negative for mining at this site. The rock formations run counter to what is needed to dig there. His words to me were "they can't mine here." This raises a safety issue, and, if true, should provide you with what you need to deny a permit. I will insist that you have the company report to Augusta released, and verify that the report is authentic. I have reported this to the Pima County supervisor Carroll and to the County Supervisor, but I believe they have not asked Augusta for a copy, or Augusta has not given them. I am assuming that your permit process will ask for this document, and that it be verified by the company who did the geology report.

Sincerely,
Timothy Storer
551-3062



Thomas Vincent
<vincent@u.arizona.ed
u>

03/18/2008 09:02 AM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Copper Project EIS

Below is a list of questions directly related to the proposed action to be undertaken by the Rosemont Copper Project. A sufficient in depth study must be undertaken for the EIS to address all these issues. Because the location of the proposed mine is in an ecologically sensitive area alongside a designated scenic highway, the study requires nothing less.

Sincerely

Thomas L. Vincent, Professor Emeritus
Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona 85721

- 1 How will surface water quantity and water quality in Davidson Canyon and Cienega Creek be protected?
- 2 How will Rosemont Copper prevent wells in nearby residential and agricultural areas from being depleted and how will they compensate the landowners?
- 3 What sensitive, and threatened and endangered species, might be affected by the mining proposal and how will impacts on these species be mitigated?
- 4 How will natural habitat and wildlife corridors be affected by the mining proposal and a proposed pipeline and how will these impacts be mitigated?
- 5 How does Rosemont Copper propose to prevent toxics from leaching out of the waste dumps and into the groundwater?
- 6 How will Rosemont Copper compensate Pima County for the damage their large, heavy vehicles will do to Highway 83?
- 7 How will Rosemont Copper guarantee the safety of school buses, tourist, and commuter traffic on Highway 83 given that, every 10-15 minutes, there will be large, heavy vehicles carrying dangerous chemicals and materials?
- 8 What studies have been done to determine how far and in what direction the airborne materials will travel and what their composition will be?
- 9 What will be done to protect nearby residents from toxic airborne materials?
- 10 What will be done to protect nearby residents, wildlife, and recreational users in the Coronado National Forest from the deleterious impacts of daily blasting?
- 11 Given that the mine expects to operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, how will the dark, night skies of the region be protected?
- 12 What will the cumulative impacts be of this mine and other

proposed
mining operations in the vicinity on wildlife, water quality, water
quantity, and air quality?

13 How does Rosemont Copper propose to protect the long-term
economic
health of local communities?



Kim Maddox
<madd166@ecoisp.com
>

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: rosemont mine

03/18/2008 08:23 AM

I won't be able to attend the meeting tonight opposing the Rosemont mine. I have hugh objections to the mine. WATER, POLLUTION, EROSION, ECO-WILDLIFE DAMAGE, NEED I CONTINUE? This mine must be STOPPED. The Santa Ritas are to ecosensitive to have mining. PLEASE STOP the ROSEMONT MINE!!!!!! KIM MADDOX



KAgu632418@aol.com

03/18/2008 06:21 AM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us

cc:

Subject: Rosemont Mine

Hello:

I live in Corona de Tucson, and the proposed Rosemont Mine is directly south of us in the Santa Rita Mountains. This is a potential environmental disaster to the water shed in Davidson Canyon, the ground water being pumped out of Sahuarita Heights, and the whole Scenic Santa Rita Range.

I am certain. Motorcycles, bicycles, tourists, sightseers and Ore trucks don't mix. School buses don't either. Ruining a scenic highway (designated US 83) for foreign mining interests only compounds the problems.

These Ore trucks will not be compatible with US 83, so it too will be destroyed. How can anybody possibly allow a company to dump tailings on OUR national forest? I have been to quite a few meetings with local people who are opposed to this cloak and dagger operation, and don't feel that the government, the BLM, the USFS or the State Land Department really care one bit about the residents of the area that will have their homes and property adversely affected by this. I lived in Tucson since 1971 and don't appreciate that residents will be chased out by foreign mining interests. Please stop this madness, it is a bad idea.

Sincerely,

Karine Aguilar

520-884-7181

It's Tax Time! [Get tips, forms and advice on AOL Money & Finance.](#)



Eve + Jesko Abraham
<evejesko@yahoo.de>

03/18/2008 05:37 AM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: comments

- Dear Sir or Madam,
- The Forest Service should NOT revise the Forest Plan to accommodate mining
- The 1872 Mining Law does not require the Forest Service to revise the plan to accommodate mining
- If Augusta's Mining Plan Operation (MPO) cannot meet the current standards and requirements of the Forest Plan, then the Forest Service must deny the plan.

- Please extend the time period for comments by 30 or 60 additional days. (this is commonly done).
- Schedule additional meetings to work on the scope of the EIS.
- Schedule additional meetings in Vail and Sonoita, both areas with major impacts from the proposed mine.
- Ask that Pima County, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, and the Arizona State Office of Historic Preservation be included as "cooperating agencies," at a minimum in the EIS process.

Thank you so much for your help.

Eve and Jesko Abraham

Lesen Sie Ihre E-Mails auf dem Handy..



"Elizabeth T. Woodin"
<etwoodin@att.net>
03/17/2008 10:23 PM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Re: Rosemont Mine - Agin yet again!

Dear Rosemont Team Leader,

I write to you as a veteran of the Rosemont battle of 1995 or 1996 when we thought that our efforts had been successful only to learn that greed has once again raised its ugly head, this time in the form of a local real estate mogul who wished not the best for our beautiful Santa Rita Mountains but rather how much money he could get out of a deal on the land he owned there. Instead of taking Pima County's offer for much more than he paid for the land, he held out to sell it to the highest bidder, a foreign copper mining company which is determined to undo all of the hard work that citizens a decade ago did to protect those mountains on our public land. It is clearly a truly unpopular project that will scar forever a beautiful and important wildlife habitat.

The citizens of this area voted to have the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan buy up lands like that to protect them but cannot compete with greedy land speculators like the former owner of the Rosemont mine site. He should be ashamed!

I am saddened that a state such as Arizona, my home for nearly 40 years, with its many natural wonders and places of great beauty like the Santa Ritas must fall prey to greed especially when the citizens of the area have worked so hard, not once but twice, over many months to protect that area. I guess I should not be too surprised that under the Bush Administration the Forest Service which is supposed to serve the people of the United States is more likely to cave in to a greedy foreign industrial giant before protecting its special wild areas for the people of the United States whose tax dollars pay their salaries.

I hope that as a good and honest public servant, you will not complete the scenario as outlined above but I have been lead to understand that this is a "done deal" so I do not hold out much hope that you will do the right thing and follow the will of the people of Southern Arizona and the world who so appreciate the wild, natural beauty of the Santa Rita Mountains and who do not wish to see it desecrated by yet another open pit mine.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in this miniscule window for public participation.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth T. Woodin
3600 N. Larrea lane
Tucson, AZ 85750



"walter smith"
<azsmithmn@msn.com
>

03/17/2008 09:18 PM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont mine

To the Forest Service:

NEPA is supposed to give the public a time early on in the process to comment on the impact of proposed projects. The last meeting on the mining proposals in the Patagonia area was organized too abruptly for many to attend, and this meeting on the Rosemont Mine proposal is likewise a short-notice affair. **This process should not be rushed.** The comment time should be extended 30 to 60 days, and additional meetings, *with adequate notice*, should be held in Sonoita and Vail, since both areas will be affected by the proposed mine. Cooperating agencies should include the Arizona State Office of Historical Preservation, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and Pima County. When such a devastating proposal as an open pit mine in one of the most biologically diverse and delicate environments in the United States, our unique desert "sky islands", is proposed, certainly there is reason to take time to carefully consider actions which will literally take **millenniums** to repair.

I understand that there has been discussion about changing the present Forest Plan to accommodate mining plans. This is not required by the 1872 Mining Act, and should not be done. If Augusta does not comply with the present requirements of the Forest Plan with NO REVISIONS, their plans should be turned down.

I oppose the proposed Rosemont mine in the Santa Rita Mountains for many reasons:

Augusta Mining plans to fill in at least four canyons, yet states that this will have no effect on the Cienega watershed. Leaching of toxic minerals from tailings and pumping water from the pit will result in contamination of both surface and underground water sources. In fact, in this water-poor environment, depletion of water sources themselves is certainly an issue.

Air and water quality will deteriorate due to dust, exhaust fumes and other toxic contaminants. Noise pollution is problematic, as are the problems caused by blasting. Mining is notorious for causing environmental destruction.

Our own governmental agencies are selling our public land to foreign mining companies at ridiculously low prices. This is beautiful, irreplaceable land, biologically rich. Tourism - biking, bird watching, camping, hiking, hunting, sight-seeing, vacationing - depends on it.

The animals and plants in our area, including many endangered, threatened or vulnerable species, should be protected. The habitat in this area, mountains surrounded by desert, is very delicate. It is irreplaceable.

I originally come from Virginia, Minnesota, a place where open pit iron mines abound, and believe me, there is no such thing as reclaiming those big pits or those big piles of tailings. **The mines are still there, they are deep, ugly and dangerous, and they are polluted.** The environment was changed negatively forever.

The economy established in Virginia and the surrounding Mesabi Iron Range was boom or bust, and in the end it was entirely bust. Whole housing developments were empty, house after house. It was devastating. An economy based on mining is headed eventually for

self-destruction, and it destroys the options the environment would have provided, including tourism and attracting businesses to the area because of the scenic beauty and recreational opportunities that might have been enjoyed by their employees.

Traffic on highway 83 is already negatively affected by the rerouting of wide loads across the mountains there. Many of those wide loads are equipment headed for mines in the White Mountains. The additional trucks and hauling of equipment associated with a new mine on that highway would be paralyzing. There would be no more State Scenic Highway.

The Santa Ritas are truly scenic. Every time I drive up highway 83, I see cars stopped and people out taking pictures in the very area where the mine will be visible. I have seen the holes where mountains used to be in the Morency mining area. After the depressing drive through that enormous wasteland, finally reaching the mountains is such a relief. Do not give mining the Santa Ritas, too.

Susan C. Smith
HC 2, Box 302
Nogales, Arizona 85621



nancy newkirk
<greeniefrost@yahoo.com>

03/17/2008 10:24 PM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: August Resource Corporation Mine Proposal

Rosemont Team Leader:

There should be NO revision to the Forest Plan to accommodate Augusta!

The Forest Service should NOT revise the Forest Plan to accommodate mining. These mountains are TOO fragile! We lived in Green Valley for four years and hiked the mountains. They are far too fragile and precious.

The 1872 Mining Law does not require the Forest Service to revise the plan to accommodate mining

If Augusta's Mining Plan Operation (MPO) cannot meet the current standards and requirements of the Forest Plan, then the Forest Service must deny the plan, period!

I request that the process be legally correct under NEPA and state SEPA law and Forest Service regulations.

What is the hurry? I request that the time period for comments be extended by 30 or 60 additional days.

I request that additional meetings be scheduled to work on the scoping process of the EIS. (I would prefer that the Forest Service Just Say No to the project!)

I request that Pima County, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, and the Arizona State Office of Historic Preservation be included as "cooperating agencies," at a minimum in the EIS process.

I oppose the Rosemont Mine because the Rosemont Copper Project is in a view corridor and would affect the water tables in the entire area and put toxics on the land and in the water. We left Green Valley partially because my dog and I became ill from the YELLOW WATER we were getting at our home from the mine in Green Valley! People need good water---and there isn't much of that in the Santa Rita Mountains area. Some years the stream in Madera Canyon and some years they DRIED UP!

I also am opposed to the mine because that particular part of the US is a desert so beautiful and incredible with unique plants that it shouldn't be ruined for any reason! It is amazing with plant and animal life.

The mining company has no track record in mining and the mining industry has a dismal environmental record.

Allegedly the company wants to fill in Barrel, Wasp, McCleary, and Scholefield Canyons with wastes, yet claims no impact to the Cienega Creek watershed. Of the 117 million dollars Augusta claims in community commitments, 67 million dollars of that is actually simply costs associated with the business of mining.

I also opposed the mine on the grounds that mining companies may claim 350 jobs, but mining jobs are incredibly transitory. One year is good, another year miners are let go. The incredibly beauty of the natural land is far more valuable as a recreational and view resource.

I opposed the mine on the grounds that air quality already is decreasing at a rapid rate. When we moved to Green Valley in 2000, the air was very clear. Now air pollution all the way from Tucson seems to be getting STUCK in Green Valley. Adding particulates and toxics to that mix will cause many health problems for residents and aesthetic problems along the scenic highway. Whirlwinds already pick up dust from the existing mines. My husband and I watched one day as a HUGE whirlwind picked up dust from the mine and spread it over all our homes! Yuck! Air quality in the National Forest and surrounding residential areas will be degraded by both dust and truck exhaust associated with mine operations.

Currently the valley is pretty quiet except for noise from the Air Force base. But, daily blasting would shake the ground and impact nearby residences, wildlife and recreational users in the National Forest will be equivalent to daily sonic booms.

Also, the Santa Rita Mountains are recognized for the biological values and are an Important Birding Area (IBA). In addition, the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan lists part of the area around Rosemont as part of the Biological Core.

There are several priority vulnerable species that are known to occur at Rosemont Ranch including two Endangered Species: the Lesser Long-nosed bat (*Leptonycteris curasoae yerbabuenae*) and Pima Pineapple Cactus (*Coryphantha scheeri robustispina*). In addition, other special status species are known to occur there: Chiricahua Leopard Frog (*Rana chiricahuensis*), listed as threatened, and the Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), a candidate for listing.

There are six others priority vulnerable species or Wildlife of Special Concern known to occur in the Rosemont Ranch area, according to the AZ Game and Fish Department: Mexican Long-tongued Bat (*Leptonycteris mexicana*), Western Red Bat (*Lasiurus blossevillii*), Lowland Leopard Frog (*Rana yavapaiensis*), Giant Spotted Whiptail Lizard (*Cnemidophorus burtistictogrammus*), Rufous-winged Sparrow (*Aimophila carpalis*), and Bell's

Vireo (*Vireo bellii*). The Mexican Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis lucida*) may also occur there, based on its habitat requirements.

Question: Do all of Arizona's gorgeous landscapes have to be marred by mining activities? It seems that it's time to fight for beauty and stillness over roaring bulldozers.

Sincerely,

Nancy Kroening
123 East Calavar Road
Phoenix AZ 85022

Never miss a thing. Make Yahoo your home page.
<http://www.yahoo.com/r/hs>



Matt Kalina
<matkalina@yahoo.com>
m>

03/17/2008 06:40 PM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Stop the Rush, Protect Us -- Save the Scenic Santa Ritas -- No mines

To: Team Leader
Rosemont Copper Project, Coronado National Forest
300 W. Congress St.
Tucson, Arizona 85701
comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us

ATTN: Rosemont Team Leader:

Deny Augusta's Mining Plan Operation. The Forest Service should NOT revise the Forest Plan to accommodate mining as the 1872 Mining Law does not require the Forest Service to revise the plan to accommodate mining. If Augusta's Mining Plan Operation (MPO) cannot meet the current standards and requirements of the Forest Plan, then the Forest Service must deny the plan.

Make the process fair:

- * Extend the time period for comments by 30 or 60 additional days. (this is commonly done).
- * Schedule additional meetings to work on the scope of the EIS.
- * Schedule additional meetings in Vail and Sonoita, both areas with major impacts from the proposed mine.
- * Include the Pima County, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and the Arizona State Office of Historic Preservation as cooperating agencies at a minimum in the EIS process.

Oppose the Rosemont Mine:

- * The Rosemont Copper Project would be located 30 miles southeast of Tucson, in Pima County, on approximately 995 acres of private land; 3,670 acres of National Forest land; 15 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and 75 acres of State Trust land.
- * With the outdated 1872 Mining Laws still in place, an estimated 230,000 acres of public land in Arizona have already been sold to private interests for \$2.50 or \$5.00 per acre.
- * The EPA reports that in 2005, metal or hardrock mining in Arizona released over 39.4 million pounds of toxins.
- * Pima County commissioned and submitted a hydrogeological study to the Coronado that raised the threat of surrounding groundwater and surface water depletion from pumping out an open pit copper mine, as well as potential leaching of pollutants into groundwater.
- * The Sky Islands of the Coronado National Forest are a globally recognized biodiversity hotspot.
- * The Santa Rita Mountains and surrounding desert and grassland seas are globally recognized for the diversity of birds, reptiles, amphibians, bees and plants.
- * Augusta has no track record in mining and the mining industry has a dismal environmental record.
- * Augusta wants to fill in Barrel, Wasp, McCleary, and Scholefield Canyons, yet claims no impact to the Cienega Creek watershed.
- * Of the 117 million dollars Augusta claims in community commitments, 67 million dollars of that is actually just costs associated with the business of mining.

* Augusta claims 350 jobs, but mining jobs are transitory as part of the mining bust and boom cycle. In reality, the mine will recreate opportunities and the jobs that depend on them will be lost forever.

- * negative impact on the local tourism based economy
- * noise pollution, air pollution and water contamination
- * increased truck traffic on local roads and highways
- * destruction of wildlife habitat, wildlife movement corridors, native plants and ecosystems
- * elimination or restriction of biking, hiking, hunting, camping, and bird watching
- * irreparable devastation of the scenic landscapes and viewsheds

Mining affects:

WATER:

Although efforts are made to contain tailings piles and other sources of runoff, leaching of exposing tailings surfaces or waste dumps, and unintended leaks from other facilities are common occurrences at mine sites. This could result in the release of potentially toxic heavy metals and other chemicals into ground and surface waters draining into Tucson area water supplies, and impacting nearby riparian areas such as Davidson Canyon.

There is every likelihood that a mine a Rosemont Ranch as is being proposed would de-water wells currently in use (as has already been done by Augusta Resource Corporation test wells) and imperil important wildlife habitat and future drinking water sources for residential use.

AIR:

The area currently has excellent air quality. Tailings and waste piles will be sources of dust, which prevailing winds will blow toward major new residential developments east of the Tucson basin. Air quality in the National Forest and surrounding residential areas will be degraded by both dust and truck exhaust associated with mine operations.

NOISE:

Daily blasting is required to remove rock (or overburden) covering the ore body. The impact to nearby residences, wildlife and recreational users in the National Forest will be equivalent to daily sonic booms.

SCENIC VIEW:

This mine will be visible from State Highway 83, a designated State Scenic Highway, for 3 miles out of the 24-mile trip from I-10 to Sonoita. The 3-mile segment includes the portion of the highway where it gains its greatest elevation above the surrounding land, at which point drivers are treated to a sweeping panoramic view of the Rosemont Valley at an overlook spot. The mine site dominates this view which currently consists of rolling hills of grasslands, dotted with oak trees and backed by a rugged ridge line.

TRAFFIC:

Mine traffic, including ore trucks and vehicles carrying heavy construction equipment and explosives for blasting, will share the narrow, winding Highway 83 with school buses, commuters, motorcyclists, bicyclists, and tourist traffic.

PROPERTY VALUES:

The areas south of the mine site have developed into high-end rural residential ranches and ranchettes. New developments are found north and east of the area. An open pit mine will severely impact the quality of life and reduce property values in those areas. The Sonoita Valley, a

weekend tourist destination, could be thrown into the boom-bust economy typical of western towns adjacent to large mining operations.

RECREATION:

The Rosemont Valley is heavily used by mountain bikers, hikers, off-highway vehicles, bicyclists, and hunters. Recreational use would be forced to move to already heavily used areas, creating conflict with growing subdivisions. The additional loss of recreational lands will aggravate our increasingly crowded public lands associated with Pima County's population growth, and decrease the quality of recreational experiences.

WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE HABITAT:

Intensive development of the site as an open pit mine will result in loss of a significant portion of the wildlife habitat and movement corridor on the eastern side of the Santa Ritas, potentially impacting endangered, threatened, and candidate species, in addition to priority vulnerable species or species of special concern. The Santa Ritas are recognized for the biological values and are an Important Birding Area (IBA). In addition, the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan lists part of the area around Rosemont as part of the Biological Core.

There are several priority vulnerable species that are known to occur at Rosemont Ranch including two Endangered Species: the Lesser Long-nosed bat (*Leptonycteris curasoae yerbabuenae*) and Pima Pineapple Cactus (*Coryphantha scheeri robustispina*). In addition, other special status species are known to occur there: Chiricahua Leopard Frog (*Rana chiricahuensis*), listed as threatened, and the Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), a candidate for listing.

There are six others priority vulnerable species or Wildlife of Special Concern known to occur in the Rosemont Ranch area, according to the AZ Game and Fish Department: Mexican Long-tongued Bat (*Choeronycteris mexicana*), Western Red Bat (*Lasiurus blossevillii*), Lowland Leopard Frog (*Rana yavapaiensis*), Giant Spotted Whiptail Lizard (*Cnemidophorus burti stictogrammus*), Rufous-winged Sparrow (*Aimophila carpalis*), and Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii*). The Mexican Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis lucida*) may also occur there, based on its habitat requirements.

ECONOMICS:

Any economic benefits of the mine will be offset by the negative impacts to tourism-related businesses dependent on the area's scenic beauty. Mine employment may be partially or completely offset by the impact of the mine on recreational and scenic values which might otherwise have lured companies into relocating to Southern Arizona and the long-term deleterious effects of mining's boom-bust economies.

A recent study by the Sonoran Institute shows that a mine at Rosemont would have serious economic impacts to the surrounding communities. The report found:

*"...if the proposed Rosemont mine operations displaced only one percent of travel and tourism-related spending in the region, the economic loss would be greater than the entire annual payroll of the mine," Joe Marlow, senior economist with the Sonoran Institute.

*most of the benefits would go to the Tucson area, while most of the costs, such as decreased tourism revenue, would be borne by communities near the mine

Sincerely,

Matt
Kalina | 8342
E. Weldon Ave.
Scottsdale,
AZ 85040 | 480-429-5850
Home office
MattKalina@yahoo.com
| Protect
OUR Environment

Never miss a thing. Make Yahoo your home page.
<http://www.yahoo.com/r/hs>



"J David Barkley "
<adoramus@cox.net>
03/17/2008 05:40 PM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Mine Project

Arizona is being subjected to companies and organizations that would despoil the land in a rush to garner uranium for supposed nuclear energy projects, as well as other quick products from the land.

The Forest Service is displaying abject poverty of conscience is running this application through as quickly as possible.

The Rosemont project is in an area of beauty that refreshes mind and body and offers Arizona citizens access to some of its most beautiful rolling hills and valleys. This area will be under increased demand for the quick buck by persons and groups who show little or no sense of bonding with the community nor with the land.

We can find ways to develop clean and efficient fuels without destroying the very lands and forests the Forest Service is supposed to protect.

Perhaps the company could open mines in front of the homes of Forest Service personnel who are so eager to approve this.

Arizona is sufficiently scarred by mining efforts to start new ones in some of its most precious landscapes.

I encourage a strong showing of opposition to the fast approval approach and ask: surely there are some persons in the Forest Service with more sense and responsibility than this, that would LISTEN to public concerns?

Shalom.

J.David Barkley

adoramus@cox.net



"Beverly Parker"
<beverlyparker@q.com
>

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont

03/17/2008 05:29 PM

Ms Andrea Campbell
Rosemont Copper Mine Project
Forest Service NEPA Coordinator

Dear Ms Campbell:

I first want to protest the very brief time you have allotted for comments on the Rosemont Copper Mine proposal as well as the very short notice of the open houses. Whether or not this was an intentional effort to limit the opportunity for comment by opponents of the project, this is the impression you have created. This is another blow to the reputation of the Tucson office of the Coronado National Forest as unresponsive to the needs and interests of residents in the adjacent communities.

Secondly, I wish to state my unqualified opposition to the Rosemont project. Even if the NEPA process concludes (incredibly) that an open pit mine more than a mile wide, together with its thousands of acres of tailings and maintenance facilities, will not destroy wildlife habitat, pollute ground water and poison air quality, put an intolerable burden upon existing water supplies and destroy the natural beauty of that area of the Santa Ritas, it is a foregone conclusion that its steady stream of ore trucks will make Scenic Highway 83 a hellish obstacle course.

Yours sincerely,

Beverly J. Parker



Jenny Roberts
<azjen@hotmail.com>
03/17/2008 12:03 PM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Comments on Augusta Mining Plan Operation

I am writing to ask that you do not revise the Forest Plan to accommodate Mining and Augusta. In short, if Augusta's Mining Plan Operation (MPO) cannot meet the current standards and requirements of the Forest Plan, then the Forest Service must deny the plan.

Please give the public a fair change to make their thoughts known and extend the time period for comments by 30 or 60 additional days, include additional meetings in areas that will be affected and include Pima County, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, and the Arizona State Office of Historic Preservation, at a minimum in the EIS process.

Concerns I have are noted below, I cannot understand why you would accommodate Augusta based on these.

- >
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- > and bird watching
- > * irreparable devastation of the scenic landscapes and viewsheds
- >

thanks

Jenny Roberts

Shed those extra pounds with MSN and The Biggest Loser! [Learn more.](#)



Thomas Vincent
<vincent@u.arizona.ed
u>

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comments on Rosemont Mine Proposal

03/17/2008 11:20 AM

Dear Sirs:

We are writing to comment on the proposed revision by the Forest Service to allow the Rosemont Copper Company to destroy another scenic area for ore development. We have read that the 1872 Mining Law does not require the Forest Service to make revision to accommodate mining. We are concerned that we are compromising the air quality, ground quality, water quality, and the continuing diversity of plant and animal life in the region for an enterprise that cannot return to us the quality of life that it will take away with the ore it finds. They should not be allowed to operate a mine that has the potential to leave us all worse off as we suffer the consequences of polluted air and water. Furthermore, the huge copper deposit located deep underground in the Globe area should be exploited first before additional open pit mines are allowed in this state.

Thomas L. Vincent
Peggie Jo A. Vincent
5225 W. Lazy C Drive
Tucson AZ 85745



"Roger Tanner"
<rogertanner@cox.net>

03/17/2008 11:09 AM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc: "Shelley Tanner" <makingacake@cox.net>, "Roger Tanner"
<rogertanner@cox.net>, <ccook520@aol.com>,
<sherkaven@aol.com>, "Tim Bee" <tbee@azleg.gov>, "Paton"
<jpaton@azleg.gov>, "McClure" <mmclure@azleg.gov>, "Ray
Carroll" <district4@pima.gov>

Subject: Mines in the Davision Canyon aera and effects on homeowners .

Dear Forest Service,

We are writing you to protest the proposal plans to open mines in the Davidson Canyon area along Highway 83. We purchased property off Highway 83, 7 years ago, and are almost done building our dream house. Only to find that we have to fight for our rights as land owners, and concerned citizens, to protect southern Arizona's natural desert areas. We strongly protest these mines because of the many ways in which they will negatively affect, not just our property, but all the communities in the surrounding areas. Here is a list of concerns that we share with our neighbors:

1. The water drawn from the wells the mine will need, will lower the water table, and cause our well to run dry, or not produce enough water. I share a well with my neighbor, and it cost us \$25,000 to put in. This represents a significant investment which could be at risk of supporting our households. We can't afford to drill another well. The pump is at 750 feet, and the well is 840 feet. I doubt very much that we could possible go any deeper. The alternative of trucking in water is time consuming and expensive. Some of the mines are planned upstream of us and could easily take out enough water to dry up our well. We will then have to take them to court and prove they harmed us and that is expensive too!

2. The mine tailing will cause the aquifer to become poisoned with minerals leaching from the tailings. The mining process will alter the geography of the land and allow water to leach quickly through rock that it would normally go through slowly or not at all. This will add additional minerals which could significantly reduce our water quality or become poisonous. We will have to be testing our water continuously to detect this, who will bare the cost of this continuous testing?. What will be done when this contamination is detected? We have to go to court to prove they affected it and who will bear the cost of that lawsuit? Will the mine supply good quality water into our homes for free? for the whole Davidson Canyon area? There are at least 50 households within 2 miles of us that will be affected and that is a small part of the Davidson Canyon area.

3. The quiet of the surrounding area will be disturbed by the truck traffic, and blasting from the mine. We are moving from the City of Tucson to escape the din of the city and we do not want to end up with listening to the mine truck traffic all day and night. It is so quiet out there now you can hear a single truck traveling along Highway 83 at night even though we are 1/4 mile from the road. There is no amount of compensation that will replace what we will lose when operations of these mines starts up.

4. The loss of our dark night sky. We are amateur astronomers and we are building our house out here to escape the city lights. We have built an observatory out there to enjoy the night sky at a cost of \$8,000. This is material cost, I built it myself with help from friends. The mine is planned to be a 24/7 operation and will have lights on at night spoiling our viewing. Again, there is no payment that will replace what we will lose when this happens.

5. We have only one road to get in/out of our property, Highway 83. Highway 83 is a narrow, 2 lane blacktop road, with no shoulders. Adding the mine traffic on the road will increase the amount of pollution from vehicles, increase road hazards because of constant traffic wearing down the road, and again, noise levels of the area. Who is going to pay for the maintenance of the road? I sure don't want it coming out of my tax dollars when I oppose these proposals in the first place!

6. We have to obey the Pima County Hillside Development Ordances for construction of our house,

and we were glad to do so to protect the environment in which we live. This affected our outside lighting, the amount of area we can clear, the color of the house, etc. This is not consistent with the rules the mine has to adhere to. How come the mines are allowed to light the area at night, cause great disturbance to the ground and area around the mine, clearing large areas of the ground. This is completely inconsistent with the rules that we had to adhere to building a single family residential home! Why are they allowed to violate the rules that preserve the beauty of the area. This is clearly a double standard!

7. The Davidson Canyon area is a natural riparian area and Highway 83 is designated as a scenic byway by the state of Arizona. All of this will be affected and endangered by allowing mines in this area. Why is this being allowed? These types of areas are rare in SE Arizona, I would think they are protected from any kind of development that threatens their existence.

8. The other reason we purchased and built in this area is because the air quality is very good in and around the Canyon. The skies are noticeably bluer and clearer than down in Tucson due to less dust in the sky, and pollution from vehicles. I have significant allergies and I am noticeably less bothered when out there. A mine will be constantly raising dust and reducing our air quality. Will we have to go to court to prove our loss? Again, there is no payment that will replace what we will lose.

9. What is going to happen to my property values, as well as my neighbors? We have our whole life savings tied up in our house, and if we have to sell in the future, who will want to live by a mine, with it's high traffic, and pollution?

In summary, we are concerned for the negative impact on the environment, cost of living, economical burdens, quality of life, and lowering property values these mines will cause! If these mines go in, there is no way you can tell me that these things will not occur. We already have other communities who experience the very affects that I listed above. Tucson also has the evidence of empty mines and the eye sores that the mining companies left behind. Why are you so quick to sell out your community for a quick buck, and sacrifice the beauty of the areas that will be raped, ravaged and left for the State and the burden of the citizens to clean up. These areas will never be the same! People come here from all over to experience southern Arizona's unique desert landscapes. We love the idea of living off a scenic highway, please don't take that away from us!

Concerned Homeowners,
Roger and Shelley Tanner
15393 E. Hillton Ranch Rd.
Vail Arizona 85641
520-574-3876

cc: Arizona State Legislators
Pima County Supervisor
Gabrielle Giffords,
US Representative



"Jamie Hogue"
<jhogue@land.az.gov>
03/17/2008 09:54 AM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont EIS process

The Arizona State Land Department is interested in becoming a cooperating agency in the Rosemont Copper Project. To whom should I direct the Land Department's request?

Jamie Hogue
Deputy State Land Commissioner
Arizona State Land Department
1616 W. Adams
Phoenix, AZ 85007
602-542-4621
jhogue@land.az.gov



Beverley A Everson
03/17/2008 10:29 AM

To: "Nancy Freeman" <nancy.freeman@cox.net>
cc: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us,
glenn.miller@mail.house.gov, jderby@fs.fed.us, "Barber, Ron"
<Ron.Barber@mail.house.gov>
Subject: Re: Request for Public Information

Hi Nancy,

I apologize for your not receiving the Rosemont public scoping mailing . Please give me your (postal) address, and I'll add your name to the list.

Concerning the mailing list, I don't know that we can legally provide it to you, however I will check on this and let you know what I find out.

Bev

Beverley A. Everson
Forest Geologist
Coronado National Forest
300 W. Congress Street, 6th Floor
Tucson, AZ. 85701

Voice: 520-388-8428
Fax: 520-388-8305

"Nancy Freeman" <nancy.freeman@cox.net>



"Nancy Freeman "
<nancy.freeman@cox.net>
03/15/2008 01:50 PM

To <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>,
<jderby@fs.fed.us>, <beverson@fs.fed.us>
cc <glenn.miller@mail.house.gov>, "Barber, Ron"
<Ron.Barber@mail.house.gov>
Subject Request for Public Information

To: Jeanine Derby, Forest Supervisor
From: Nancy Freeman
Groundwater Awareness League
Date: March 15, 2008
Subject: Contact list for Rosemont Hearing

I had requested to be on the list for notification of any hearings or actions concerning the Rosemont Mine environmental process. However, I was not notified of the upcoming hearing--for which we only had less than one week notice:

Posted on Federal Register March 13, first hearing March 18

Obviously, I am concerned that others who had requested to be on the notification list were not contacted. Therefore, I request the list so that I can be assured all who did request a

notification receives one.

Thanks,
Nancy Freeman
Executive Director
Groundwater Awareness League, Inc.
P. O. Box 934
Green Valley, AZ 85622
520/207-6506



"SHIRLEY
MCDONALD"
<shirley733@msn.com>

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Santa Rita Gold mine

03/17/2008 09:26 AM

This mine is a bad idea. The unintended consequences to the environment and the flyway will cause harm to people, animals, and tourism. Stop it.

Shirley McDonald
shirley733@msn.com



"Robert Herdliska "
<gprsoutrun@msn .com
>

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Copper Project EIS

03/17/2008 09:18 AM

Please include as public comment.

Thank you,
Robert Herdliska
2631 W. Prato Way



Tucson, AZ 85741 Rosemont letter 03172008.doc

2631 W. Prato Way
Tucson, AZ
85741
March 17, 2008

Robert Herdliska

Attention;
Ms. Beverley Everson, Geologist
Coronado National Forest
300 W. Congress St.
Tucson, AZ 85701

Rosemont Copper Project EIS

To whom this may concern,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the development of a copper mine which will be utilizing over 3000 acres of public land. Please include my comments as part of the ongoing scoping process. First, it has come to my attention that notice of the ongoing scoping meetings in Pima County has been late, leading to a suspicion that the National Forest Service (NFS) is attempting to rush the process and as a result prevent many who have important things to say about this project from presenting their concerns within such an abbreviated time frame. I would appreciate the NFS taking whatever measures necessary that would mitigate the interference with public comment which this procedural decision may have caused. I do not believe the NFS should be amending its current forest plan to accommodate a mining project which when all told, will contribute to the decline in the health of the wildlife and ecosystems in the Rosemont valley area. The Sky Islands of the Coronado National Forest are world reknown for the biodiversity within their region. Mining does nothing to benefit the ecological health of the region. A mine such as the one planned for Rosemont by Augusta Resources will have a detrimental effect upon local watersheds and air quality. Communities adjacent to the mines will suffer. Property values could decline as a result of nearby mining activity. Economically overall, the planned mine will do nothing to contribute to the long term economic health of the Tucson region. Supposedly 300 mining jobs will be created. How many jobs will be lost as cleaner, smarter industry refuses to locate to the area due to the overall environmental decline as the result of the mine. Mines have boom and bust legacies, perhaps very well for the short and intermediate term, but what is left is a permanently altered and degraded environment. I appreciate knowing that a process is in place for the public at large to contribute to the eventual decision on this important concern. Please do what is right and keep it open and fair.

Sincerely,
Robert Herdliska



snpbak@aol.com
03/17/2008 08:01 AM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: DO NOT RUIN S.AZ WITH ROSEMONT!

JUST LOOK AT THE UGLY MINES AT GREEN VALLEY AND THAT IS WHAT THE SCENIC ROUTE ON 83 WILL LOOK LIKE. INCLUDING THE HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CATASTROPHES.

Heather Irbinskas, Sonoita Resident

To:

- > Team Leader
- >
- > Rosemont Copper Project, Coronado National Forest
- > 300 W. Congress St.
- > Tucson, Arizona 85701
- >
- >
- >
- >
- > NO revision to the Forest Plan to accommodate Augusta
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- > * If Augusta's Mining Plan Operation (MPO) cannot meet the current
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- > Ask that the process be fair!
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- > (this is commonly done).
- > * Schedule additional meetings to work on the scope of the EIS.
- > * Schedule additional meetings in Vail and Sonoita, both areas with
- > major impacts from the proposed mine.
- > * Ask that Pima County, the Arizona Department of Environmental
- > Quality, and the Arizona State Office of Historic Preservation be
- > included as "cooperating agencies," at a minimum in the EIS process.
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- > Why oppose the Rosemont Mine?
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- > * The Rosemont Copper Project would be located 30 miles southeast of
- > Tucson, in Pima County, on approximately 995 acres of private land;
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- > the Bureau of Land Management and 75 acres of State Trust land.
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- > 230,000 acres of public land in Arizona have already been sold to
- > private interests for \$2.50 or \$5.00 per acre.
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- > FOR MORE INFO: www.scenicsantaritas.org
- >
- >
- > MORE INFORMATION ON IMPACTS TO---
- >
- > WATER:
- > Although efforts are made to contain tailings piles and other sources of
- > runoff, leaching of exposing tailings surfaces or waste dumps, and
- > unintended leaks from other facilities are common occurrences at mine
- > sites. This could result in the release of potentially toxic heavy
- > metals and other chemicals into ground and surface waters draining into
- > Tucson area water supplies, and impacting nearby riparian areas such as
- > Davidson Canyon.
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- > proposed would dewater wells currently in use (as has already been done
- > by Augusta Resource Corporation test wells) and imperil important
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- > AIR:
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- >

- > NOISE:
 - > Daily blasting is required to remove rock (or overburden) covering the
 - > ore body. The impact to nearby residences, wildlife and recreational
 - > users in the National Forest will be equivalent to daily sonic booms.
- >
- > SCENIC VIEW:
 - > This mine will be visible from State Highway 83, a designated State
 - > Scenic Highway, for 3 miles out of the 24-mile trip from I-10 to
 - > Sonoita. The 3-mile segment includes the portion of the highway where it
 - > gains its greatest elevation above the surrounding land, at which point
 - > drivers are treated to a sweeping panoramic view of the Rosemont Valley
 - > at an overlook spot. The mine site dominates this view which currently
 - > consists of rolling hills of grasslands, dotted with oak trees and
 - > backed by a rugged ridge line.
- >
- > TRAFFIC:
 - > Mine traffic, including ore trucks and vehicles carrying heavy
 - > construction equipment and explosives for blasting, will share the
 - > narrow, winding Highway 83 with school buses, commuters, motorcyclists,
 - > bicyclists, and tourist traffic.
- >
- > PROPERTY VALUES:
 - > The areas south of the mine site have developed into high-end rural
 - > residential ranches and ranchettes. New developments are found north and
 - > east of the area. An open pit mine will severely impact the quality of
 - > life and reduce property values in those areas. The Sonoita Valley, a
 - > weekend tourist destination, could be thrown into the boom-bust economy
 - > typical of western towns adjacent to large mining operations.
- >
- > RECREATION:
 - > The Rosemont Valley is heavily used by mountain bikers, hikers,
 - > off-highway vehicles, bicyclists, and hunters. Recreational use would be
 - > forced to move to already heavily used areas, creating conflict with
 - > growing subdivisions. The additional loss of recreational lands will
 - > aggravate our increasingly crowded public lands associated with Pima
 - > County's population growth, and decrease the quality of recreational
 - > experiences.
- >
- > WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE HABITAT:
 - > Intensive development of the site as an open pit mine will result in
 - > loss of a significant portion of the wildlife habitat and movement
 - > corridor on the eastern side of the Santa Ritas, potentially impacting
 - > endangered, threatened, and candidate species, in addition to priority
 - > vulnerable species or species of special concern. The Santa Ritas are
 - > recognized for the biological values and are an Important Birding Area
 - > (IBA). In addition, the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan lists part of
 - > the area around Rosemont as part of the Biological Core.
- >
- > There are several priority vulnerable species that are known to occur at
- > Rosemont Ranch including two Endangered Species: the Lesser Long-nosed
- > bat (*Leptonycteris curasoae yerbabuena*) and Pima Pineapple Cactus
- > (*Coryphantha scheeri robustispina*). In addition, other special status
- > species are known to occur there: Chiricahua Leopard Frog (*Rana*
- > *chiricahuensis*), listed as threatened, and the Yellow-billed Cuckoo

- > (Coccyzus americanus), a candidate for listing.
- >
- > There are six others priority vulnerable species or Wildlife of Special
- > Concern known to occur in the Rosemont Ranch area, according to the AZ
- > Game and Fish Department: Mexican Long-tongued Bat (Choeronycteris
- > mexicana), Western Red Bat (Lasiurus blossevillii), Lowland Leopard Frog
- > (Rana yavapaiensis), Giant Spotted Whiptail Lizard (Cnemidophorus burti
- > stictogrammus), Rufous-winged Sparrow (Aimophila carpalis), and Bell's
- > Vireo (Vireo bellii). The Mexican Spotted Owl (Strix occidentalis
- > lucida) may also occur there, based on its habitat requirements.
- >
- > ECONOMICS:
- > Any economic benefits of the mine will be offset by the negative impacts
- > to tourism-related businesses dependent on the area's scenic beauty.
- > Mine employment may be partially or completely offset by the impact of
- > the mine on recreational and scenic values which might otherwise have
- > lured companies into relocating to Southern Arizona and the long-term
- > deleterious effects of mining's boom-bust economies.
- >
- > A recent study by the Sonoran Institute shows that a mine at Rosemont
- > would have serious economic impacts to the surrounding communities. The
- > report found:
- >
- > *"...if the proposed Rosemont mine operations displaced only one percent
- > of travel and tourism-related spending in the region, the economic loss
- > would be greater than the entire annual payroll of the mine," Joe
- > Marlow, senior economist with the Sonoran Institute.
- >
- > *most of the benefits would go to the Tucson area, while most of the
- > costs, such as decreased tourism revenue, would be borne by communities
- > near the mine
- >
- > For more information visit: www.sonoran.org
- >
- > Thanks!
- > Lainie

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"Ricardo Small"
<rsmallsprint@earthlink
.net>

03/17/2008 04:51 AM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc: "Lainie Levick" <lainiel@comcast.net>, <district4@pima.gov>
Subject: Rosemont Copper Mine (NOT "Project") EIS

TO: Jeanine A. Derby
Supervisor
CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST

Thanks for your March 10, 2008 letter pertaining to file code 1950-1/2800.

The negative impact of the proposed Rosemont Mine is so overwhelming that the economic benefits do not outweigh the detrimental consequences of this Mine.

I am a certified real estate appraiser (Arizona # 30651) and have lived in Tucson since 1959.

If you approve of the Rosemont Mine's use of Forest land, there will be taking of market value of surrounding privately owned real estate.

The Pima County Assessor recognizes a negative external influence of the mines near Green Valley and sets full cash values of nearby privately owned properties lower due to a "mine" influence. The same will be true, if the Rosemont Mine is approved.

The owners of private real estate along the Sonoita Highway and on the West side of the mountains now enjoy scenery untainted by mining infrastructure. And, there is no dynamite blasting to disturb people living in these areas. Upon commencement of blasting and construction of infrastructure, property values will plummet.

Loading this detriment on the area's property values, at a time when market values are already declining, will place an inordinate burden on owners and may generate more foreclosures.

Sadly, there is some negative influence already occurring due to buyers' anticipation of the Rosemont Mine. Marketing times to sell property in this area have extended during the past couple of years, partly due to a deteriorated market, but also partly due to buyer apprehension of the Forest Service approving the use of public land for private mining activities.

If you approve the use of public lands for this Mine, the negative impact on nearby real estate values will be significant.

Please do not allow Forest lands to be used in such a detrimental fashion. Help the people who own nearby properties to protect their values.

Ricardo Small
CERTIFIED GENERAL
REAL ESTATE APPRAISER

cc Representative Gabrielle Giffords
via U.S. House email



maria nasif
<marianasif@yahoo .co
m>

03/16/2008 08:47 PM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: NO revision to the Forest Plan to accommodate Augusta

Attn: Rosemont Team Leader,

The Forest Service should NOT revise the Forest Plan to accommodate mining

The 1872 Mining Law does not require the Forest Service to revise the plan to accommodate mining. If Augusta's Mining Plan Operation (MPO) cannot meet the current standards and requirements of the Forest Plan, then the Forest Service must deny the plan. Ask that the process be fair.

Extend the time period for comments by 30 or 60 additional days. (this is commonly done).
Schedule additional meetings to work on the scope of the EIS.

Schedule additional meetings in Vail and Sonoita, both areas with major impacts from the proposed mine.

Ask that Pima County, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, and the Arizona State Office of Historic Preservation be included as "cooperating agencies," at a minimum in the EIS process.

Why oppose the Rosemont Mine?

The Rosemont Copper Project would be located 30 miles southeast of Tucson, in Pima County, on approximately 995 acres of private land; 3,670 acres of National Forest land; 15 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and 75 acres of State Trust land.

With the outdated 1872 Mining Laws still in place, an estimated 230,000 acres of public land in Arizona have already been sold to private interests for \$2.50 or \$5.00 per acre.

The EPA reports that in 2005, metal or hardrock mining in Arizona released over 39.4 million pounds of toxins.

Pima County commissioned and submitted a hydrogeological study to the Coronado that raised the threat of surrounding groundwater and surface water depletion from pumping out an open pit copper mine, as well as potential leaching of pollutants into groundwater.

The Sky Islands of the Coronado National Forest are a globally recognized biodiversity hotspot.

The Santa Rita Mountains and surrounding desert and grassland seas are globally recognized for the diversity of birds, reptiles, amphibians, bees and plants.

Augusta has no track record in mining and the mining industry has a dismal environmental record.

Augusta wants to fill in Barrel, Wasp, McCleary, and Scholefield Canyons, yet claims no impact to the Cienega Creek watershed.

Of the 117 million dollars Augusta claims in community

commitments, 67 million dollars of that is actually just costs associated with the business of mining. Augusta claims 350 jobs, but mining jobs are transitory as part of the mining bust and boom cycle. In reality, the mine will recreate opportunities and the jobs that depend on them will be lost forever. negative impact on the local tourism based economy noise pollution, air pollution and water contamination increased truck traffic on local roads and highways destruction of wildlife habitat, wildlife movement corridors, native plants and ecosystems elimination or restriction of biking, hiking, hunting, camping, and bird watching irreparable devastation of the scenic landscapes and viewsheds.

Very sincerely yours,
Dr. & Mrs. Marcelo E. Nasif

Be a better friend, newshound, and know-it-all with Yahoo! Mobile. Try it now.
http://mobile.yahoo.com/;_ylt=Ahu06i62sR8HDtDypao8Wcj9tAcJ



"Scott Knight"
<sunsatellites@msn .co
m>

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: rosemont mine

03/16/2008 06:39 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a concerned citizen of Southern Arizona. I would like it known that I am strongly against the Rosemont Mine. Arizona has a lot of mines and we do not need another. The mine will increase pollution, traffic and environmental degradation. Let's just stick with the mines we already have.

Sincerely,

Scott Knight
Tucson, AZ



Larry Nichols
<lvn600@hotmail.com>

03/16/2008 05:22 PM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: copper mine NO!

To whom it may concern: The copper mine you are proposing is too close to Ramsey Canyon-a prime bird habitat.-Please reconsider what you are doing!

sincerely,
Larry Johnson

Helping your favorite cause is as easy as instant messaging. You IM, we give. [Learn more.](#)



"Joyce Harrison "
<jehphotos@cox .net>

03/16/2008 01:31 PM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont

Please, no more mines!
J Harrison



Jeff Shriver
<jlsjml@cableone.net>

03/16/2008 11:38 AM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Copper Project EIS

I oppose the proposed Rosemont Copper mine project. Water in southwestern Arizona is far too precious and scarce to allot to a mining project, and National Forest Service property belongs to the citizens of the US, not to be exploited for the use of this ill conceived project. No to the Rosemont Copper Project.

Sincerely,

Jeff Shriver
POB 256
Bisbee AZ 85603



"Kathy Davidoff"
<kdavidoff@zirkel.us>

03/16/2008 09:37 AM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Mine

I won't take up your valuable time, just count me among the concerned citizens that are against this mine.

I feel the Forest Service needs more time to sift through the myriad of information it has received.

Respectfully

Kathleen Davidoff
Tucson, AZ



"John Madocks"
<jmadocks@generalpla
sma.com>

03/16/2008 09:31 AM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Mining in the Santa Rita's

Dear Forest Service Personnel,

As a citizen of Arizona and an avid hiker and outdoors person, I oppose the mining of the Santa Rita mtns. Since coming to Tucson in 1994 I have repeatedly been struck by the ugliness of the Green Valley area. The mines in that area completely deface the entire valley region. In exploring the southwest, this massive ruination of scenic beauty is repeated many times. Not only is the damage done today, but it will be like that for thousands of years. The Santa Rita's, and the surrounding valleys and mountains remain scenic and beautiful today. Please stop a mine from ruining this for all time.

Best regards,

John Madocks
President
General Plasma, Inc.
(520)882-5100 x224



"JEFFREY DE *MOSS"
<jdemoss119@msn.co
m>

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont mine

03/16/2008 08:58 AM

I work in the Corona de Tucson area and have Family that live in the Corona de Tucson area. I would hate to see the destruction of so much beautiful land in which we use for hiking camping and various other activities which will be taken away if this happens . Please don't destroy our land.

Sincerely, Jeff DeMoss



"Don Garrett"
<dgarrett2@earthlink.net>
↳

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Mining

03/16/2008 08:39 AM
Please respond to
dgarrett2

To Whom It May Concern:

Please do not revise the Forest Plan to accommodate mining!
We have too many problems with water and land pollution in
this area already.

Sincerely,
Don and Susan Garrett
Green Valley, AZ

Don Garrett
dgarrett2@earthlink.net
EarthLink Revolves Around You.



"Jay Whitmeyer"
<jerryonjay@gmail.com
>

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Mining

03/15/2008 09:25 PM

Dear sirs ,

Please keep the mining away from Corona De Tucson .

Sincerely , Jay . W.

--

"The thought of [McCain] being president sends a cold chill down my spine. He is erratic. He is hotheaded. He loses his temper and he worries me." -- Senator Thad Cochran of Mississippi, who has known McCain for 35 years OBAMA / WEBB 2008



<willpeg@cox.net>

03/15/2008 07:21 PM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us

cc:

Subject: revision of forest plan

Please extend the time for comments on revision of the Forest Plan to accomodate Rosemont mining in the Santa Rita mountains. This issue is too important to rush through without sufficient public notice.



"Nancy Freeman "
<nancy.freeman@cox.net>
et>

03/15/2008 01:50 PM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>, <jderby@fs.fed.us>, <beverson@fs.fed.us>
cc: <glenn.miller@mail.house.gov>, "Barber, Ron" <Ron.Barber@mail.house.gov>

Subject: Request for Public Information

To: Jeanine Derby, Forest Supervisor
From: Nancy Freeman
Groundwater Awareness League
Date: March 15, 2008
Subject: Contact list for Rosemont Hearing

I had requested to be on the list for notification of any hearings or actions concerning the Rosemont Mine environmental process. However, I was not notified of the upcoming hearing--for which we only had less than one week notice:

Posted on Federal Register March 13, first hearing March 18

Obviously, I am concerned that others who had requested to be on the notification list were not contacted. Therefore, I request the list so that I can be assured all who did request a notification receives one.

Thanks,
Nancy Freeman
Executive Director
Groundwater Awareness League, Inc.
P. O. Box 934
Green Valley, AZ 85622
520/207-6506



"Robert M. Winston"
<dfcwinsret8@tds.net>

03/15/2008 12:14 PM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: STOP

STOP FOREIGN INVESTORS! STOP THEM NOW!

Robert Winston
Retired Fire Chief
EX-Arizonan



Norm Schwartz
<normschwartz@comcast.net>

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Mine

03/15/2008 11:57 AM

THanks for this opportunity to comment. THE PUBLIC expects that the following issues be reviewed and truly resolved:

1. How will surface water quantity and water quality in Davidson Canyon and Cienega Creek be protected?
2. How will Rosemont Copper prevent wells in nearby residential and agricultural areas from being depleted, and how will they compensate the landowners?
3. What sensitive, threatened, and endangered species might be affected by the mining proposal, and how will impacts on these species be mitigated?
4. How will natural habitat and wildlife corridors be affected by the mining proposal and a proposed pipeline, and how will these impacts be mitigated?
5. How does Rosemont Copper propose to prevent toxics from leaching out of the waste dumps and into the groundwater?
6. How will Rosemont Copper compensate Pima County for the damage their large, heavy vehicles will do to Highway 83?
7. How will Rosemont Copper guarantee the safety of school buses, tourist, and commuter traffic on Highway 83 given that, every 10 to 15 minutes, there will be large, heavy vehicles carrying dangerous chemicals and materials?
8. What studies have been done to determine how far and in what direction the airborne materials will travel and what their composition will be?
9. What will be done to protect nearby residents from toxic airborne materials?
10. What will be done to protect nearby residents, wildlife, and recreational users in the Coronado National Forest from the deleterious impacts of daily blasting?
11. Given that the mine expects to operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, what is the overall impact on light pollution?
12. What will the cumulative impacts be of this mine and other proposed mining operations in the vicinity on wildlife, water quality, water quantity, and air quality?
13. How does Rosemont Copper propose to protect the long-term economic health of local communities?



Jonathan.Lunine@ifsi-r
oma.inaf.it
03/15/2008 10:45 AM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Comments on the Rosemont Copper Project

To The Coronado National Forest

I am opposed to the proposal to mine copper via open pit operations in the Rosemont valley of the Santa Rita Mountains, for the following reasons, which must be addressed in the EIS:

- * The EPA reports that in 2005, metal or hardrock mining in Arizona released over 39.4 million pounds of toxins.
- * Pima County commissioned and submitted a hydrogeological study to the Coronado that raised the threat of surrounding groundwater and surface water depletion from pumping out an open pit copper mine, as well as potential leaching of pollutants into groundwater.
- * The Sky Islands of the Coronado National Forest are a globally recognized biodiversity hotspot.
- * The Santa Rita Mountains and surrounding desert and grassland seas are globally recognized for the diversity of birds, reptiles, amphibians, bees and plants, and this diversity will be significantly reduced and endangered by the mine.
- * Augusta has no track record in mining and the mining industry has a dismal environmental record.
- * Augusta wants to fill in Barrel, Wasp, McCleary, and Scholefield Canyons, yet claims no impact to the Cienega Creek watershed.
- * Of the 117 million dollars Augusta claims in community commitments, 67 million dollars of that is actually just costs associated with the business of mining; Augusta's contributions to the communities surrounding the mine will be far less than the long-term costs.
- * Augusta claims 350 jobs, but mining jobs are transitory as part of the mining bust and boom cycle. In reality, the mine will drive companies that value clean air, water and open space away from Tucson and to other cities, potentially causing a decrease in high tech jobs to a numerical extent equal to or greater than the direct mining jobs.
- * There will be negative impact on the local tourism based economy
- * There will be noise pollution, air pollution and water contamination
- * There will be increased truck traffic on local roads and highways
- * There will be destruction of wildlife habitat, wildlife movement corridors, native plants and ecosystems
- * The mine will result in elimination or restriction of biking, hiking, hunting, camping, and bird watching
- * There will be irreparable devastation of the scenic landscapes and viewsheds.

I cannot attend any of the public comment meetings, which you have scheduled with little advanced notice during a week that for many us is already heavily scheduled with previous commitments. Together with your haste in starting this process before Augusta has provided you complete responses to your query re hydrological impacts, this telegraphs a desire on the part of the Coronado National Forest to complete the process ASAP and without adequate regard to public input and the integrity of the process. This is not a good start.

Please add me to your list of responders.

Jonathan Lunine
P.O. Box 97
Sonoita AZ 85637

520 455 9274.



"Debbie Zwirtz "
<crispycritter19@hotmail.com>

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: re: Rosemont mine project

03/14/2008 08:22 PM

To whom it may Concern:

From all I've read thus far-THIS IS A VERY BAD IDEA! Not only the substantial likelihood of water and air pollution, the loss of scenic views and wildlife habitat, but also de-valuation of local property DIRECTLY DUE TO THE MINE!

Overall NEGATIVE IMPACT far outweighs ANY benefits derived-and added to the negative side is the allegation that this company has a terrible record of "environmental responsibility". This project should be scrapped!

Thank you for listening to my concerns, Debbie Zwirtz
crispycritter19@hotmail.com



"Terri Contapay "
<tcontapay50@comcast
.net>

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Copper Mining Issues

03/14/2008 06:11 PM

Concerned Parties:

As a life long resident of Arizona (57 years) and a southern Arizona resident (32 years), I believe more ecological damage will be caused by this mining effort than any possible justifiable economical benefit. Arizona already bears the scars of many mines. The vegetation and animal life will never recover. The Rosemont valley with its hills and valleys sustains precious and such proposed mining will only further scar our landscape. The Forest Service should protect this land for future generations/

Terri Contapay



"CarolLoCastro"
<carlolocastro@co-isp.com>

03/14/2008 04:46 PM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Copper Project

Attention: U.S. Forest Service

As a citizen of Green Valley, I am opposed to the construction of an open pit copper near the Santa Rita Mountains. This desert environment is a delicate ecosystem that would be permanently harmed by the proposed construction. As a popular recreational area, it should be preserved as open space for the enjoyment of future generations. Also, a mine would consume large amounts of ground water, further depleting an aquifer that is already being drawn down. Current citizens of the area are facing the possibility of severe restrictions in the years to come. Thank you for your attention.

LoCastro

Via Alonso

Valley, AZ 85614

Carol

2223 S.

Green



Thierry Deshayes
<uncleterr@hotmail.com>
m>

03/14/2008 02:29 PM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: NO revision to the Forest Plan to accommodate Augusta

To: Team Leader
Rosemont Copper Project, Coronado National Forest
300 W. Congress St.
Tucson, Arizona 85701

NO revision to the Forest Plan to accommodate Augusta

- The Forest Service should NOT revise the Forest Plan to accommodate mining
- The 1872 Mining Law does not require the Forest Service to revise the plan to accommodate mining
- If Augusta's Mining Plan Operation (MPO) cannot meet the current standards and requirements of the Forest Plan, then the Forest Service must deny the plan.

The process needs to be fair

- Extend the time period for comments by 30 or 60 additional days. (this is commonly done).
- Schedule additional meetings to work on the scope of the EIS.
- Schedule additional meetings in Vail and Sonoita, both areas with major impacts from the proposed mine.
- Ask that Pima County, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, and the Arizona State Office of Historic Preservation be included as "cooperating agencies," at a minimum in the EIS process.

Why oppose the Rosemont Mine?

- The Rosemont Copper Project would be located 30 miles southeast of Tucson, in Pima County, on approximately 995 acres of private land; 3,670 acres of National Forest land; 15 acres of land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and 75 acres of State Trust land.
- With the outdated 1872 Mining Laws still in place, an estimated 230,000 acres of public land in Arizona have already been sold to private interests for \$ 2.50 or \$5.00 per acre.
- The EPA reports that in 2005, metal or hardrock mining in Arizona released over 39.4 million pounds of toxins.
- Pima County commissioned and submitted a hydrogeological study to the Coronado that raised the threat of surrounding groundwater and surface water depletion from pumping out an open pit copper mine, as well as potential leaching of pollutants into groundwater.
- The Sky Islands of the Coronado National Forest are a globally recognized biodiversity hotspot.
- The Santa Rita Mountains and surrounding desert and grassland seas are globally recognized for the diversity of birds, reptiles, amphibians, bees and plants.
- Augusta has no track record in mining and the mining industry has a dismal environmental record.
- Augusta wants to fill in Barrel, Wasp, McCleary, and Scholefield Canyons, yet claims no impact to the Cienega Creek watershed.
- Of the 117 million dollars Augusta claims in community commitments, 67 million dollars of that is actually just costs associated with the business of mining.

- Augusta claims 350 jobs, but mining jobs are transitory as part of the mining bust and boom cycle. In reality, the mine will recreate opportunities and the jobs that depend on them will be lost forever.
- negative impact on the local tourism based economy
- noise pollution, air pollution and water contamination
- increased truck traffic on local roads and highways
- destruction of wildlife habitat, wildlife movement corridors, native plants and ecosystems
- elimination or restriction of biking, hiking, hunting, camping, and bird watching
- irreparable devastation of the scenic landscapes and viewsheds



"wren keller"
<wrenkeller@gmail.com>
>

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Mine

03/14/2008 02:10 PM

I live in Corona de Tucson, and I'm very opposed Rosemont Mine is directly south of us in the Santa Rita Mountains. This mine poses a potential environmental disaster to the ground water in this area of the Sahuarita Heights area, and the whole Scenic Santa Rita Range. The increased traffic along HWY 83 can only lead to continued deterioration of this scenic area. I work for the local Fire Department and the wrecks can be quite deadly when they happen, Motorcycles, bicycles, tourists, sightseers and ore trucks don't mix. Ruining a scenic highway. These ore trucks will not be compatible with US 83, so it too will be destroyed. How can anybody possibly allow a company to dump tailings on OUR national forest and State Land?

As much as a company can say that this project will be no impact and that we will not notice the operations, you just have to look at the other local mining operations, Bisbee, Stafford, Helvica, Pima Mine, Morenci, Winkelman and we can see the impact to the land and to the people.

Please don't let this mining ruin the area of Corona de Tucson, the scenic Highway 83, the mightily Santa Rita Mountains and the ground water of the Tucson Valley. Haven't we given enough land to big business?

--

Wren Keller
FF/CEP AHA AF
520 979 0589
www.iwren.com
www.coronafire.org



DeAnna Zink
<davi0178@yahoo.com
>

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Copper

03/14/2008 12:39 PM

Rosemont Copper, These are some very pertinent questions for you, I would very much appreciate answers asap.

1. How will surface water quantity and water quality in Davidson Canyon and Cienega Creek be protected?
2. How will Rosemont Copper prevent wells in nearby residential and agricultural areas from being depleted, and how will they compensate the landowners? If the wells will be depleted how can you even think of starting to blast and drill in this area??
3. What sensitive, threatened, and endangered species might be affected by the mining proposal, and how will impacts on these species be mitigated?
4. How will natural habitat and wildlife corridors be affected by the mining proposal and a proposed pipeline, and how will these impacts be mitigated?
5. How does Rosemont Copper propose to prevent toxics from leaching out of the waste dumps and into the groundwater? Will there be any groundwater to worry about or will it all be contaminated by waste and toxins.
6. How will Rosemont Copper compensate Pima County for the damage their large, heavy vehicles will do to Highway 83?
7. How will Rosemont Copper guarantee the safety of school buses, tourist, and commuter traffic on Highway 83 given that, every 10 to 15 minutes, there will be large, heavy vehicles carrying dangerous chemicals and materials? Where will these vehicles be coming from and where are they going?? What will happen to the toxic waste??
8. What studies have been done to determine how far and in what direction the airborne materials will travel and what their composition will be?
9. What will be done to protect nearby residents from toxic airborne materials?
10. What will be done to protect nearby residents, wildlife, and recreational users in the Coronado National Forest from the deleterious impacts of daily blasting?
11. Given that the mine expects to operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, what is the overall impact on light pollution? Noise pollution??
12. What will the cumulative impacts be of this mine and other proposed mining operations in the vicinity on wildlife, water quality, water quantity, and air quality?
13. How does Rosemont Copper propose to protect the long-term economic health of local communities?

Thank you for replying to these questions, DeAnna Zink



ranchosanmiguel@aol .c
om

03/14/2008 11:29 AM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Copper Project

We are residents of Patagonia who use highway 83 to commute and are very opposed to the traffic this mine will cause with the heavy vehicles, and damage to the road. We are hikers and concerned about the damage to the wildlife being displaced, and also the toxic discharges leaching into the watershed and the soil. We are very opposed to this mine and the damage it will cause. Mining is never safe and always causes environmental problems and we do not want it in our backyard.

Peter and Vicky Lockwood

PO Box 1178

Patagonia

Az 85624



"Scott O'Mack "
<somack@sicrm.com>
03/14/2008 10:31 AM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Copper Project

Dear Team Leader, Rosemont Copper Project, Coronado National Forest:

I have resided in southern Arizona for the last nine years, and for many more years I have admired the special beauty of the Santa Rita Mountains. Today, this priceless resource for recreation, natural conservation, scientific research, and scenic views is threatened on all sides by the effects of development. The proposed Rosemont Copper mine would be another irreversible blow to the mountain range and the surrounding area. It is a project that will only be viewed with sad regret years from now.

I hope the Forest Service has the wisdom, and can find the will, to stop the proposed project from taking place. The interests of the people of southern Arizona, and of the United States as a whole, are best served by keeping the Santa Ritas and the surrounding area as free of high-impact development as possible.

Sincerely,
Scott O'Mack
4080 E. 17th St.
Tucson, AZ 85711
somack@sicrm.com



Saun41@aol.com

03/14/2008 10:17 AM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us

cc:

Subject: Rosemont Copper Project

In the middle of all the information coming out about the struggles we are having with global warming, the high cost of energy, a recession looming, and the desert being in a drought; we are thinking of making another big mess for the environment and it's inhabitants. There are way too many questions that still need to be answered honestly before we create another blight on our beautiful desert. I don't believe we need another open-pit mine that will cause problems that money can not fix.

Thank you
Sande Rego-Ross
9208 North Condor Place
Tucson, AZ 85742

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"Barbara"
<bdarlin@earthlink.net>

03/13/2008 05:05 PM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc: <Ccook520@aol.com>
Subject: Meetings scheduled

The Forest Service encourages public participation in the EIS process. Three initial public open-house meetings are scheduled this month, as follows:

1. March 18, 2008, Pima Community College Desert Vista Campus, 5901 South Calle Santa Cruz, Tucson, Arizona. 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
2. March 19, 2008, Canoa Hills Recreation Center, 3660 South Camino del Sol, Green Valley, Arizona, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
3. March 20, 2008, Patagonia Union High School, Highway 82, Patagonia, Arizona, 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

My question; if the Forest service is encouraging public participation, why is there no nearby scheduled meeting for those of us most severely impacted by this situation? We live between both the mining operations, Davidson Canyon Natural Preserve ("natural preserve" which apparently doesn't count) and the Rosemont Canyon (Canadian mine!) off State Scenic Route 83. Those haul trucks full of tailings, to dump on OUR public lands, will be running 24/7 every 10 minutes down in front of our property and yet we have to travel away from the impacted area to have our voices heard. Unacceptable!!!!

Barbara Raley



"Barbara"
<bdarlin@earthlink.net>

03/13/2008 04:08 PM

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc: <Ccook520@aol.com>
Subject: Rosemont Canyon

My name is Barbara Raley, Mrs.. Johnnie Raley, and we, being affected residents of the two mining fiascos happening, Davidson Natural Preserve and Rosemont Canyon (owned by a Canadian firm no less) strongly object to the furtherance of any large scale commercial mining operations in the Santa Rita and Empire-Fagan mountain ranges. First of all, Hwy 83 is a state designated Scenic Highway that will be destroyed by the haul roads, crusher sites, extra traffic on our beautiful Scenic Route. Joe Marlow, resource economist of the Sonoran Institute, conducted an independent study to look at the mining's potential economic impacts in the Santa Rita and Patagonia mountains. Amongst his findings was the fact that the greatest negative impact would be on Tourism and our local school district. School district alone would cost us, the local taxpayers, \$10 million per year, increase the costs for travelers on State Route 83 to about \$949,000 per year and societal costs associated with increased driving of a least \$418,000!

The Rosemont mine alone is expected to make 1,000 trips weekly to and from the mine, 24/7. That's one round trip with a Semi load of materials, past my home and beautiful, peaceful property just one mile down the hill on Sonoita Scenic Route 83 EVERY TEN MINUTES. That alone will destroy Highway 83 and then what. Taxpayers have to pay for that as well! None of this makes ANY sense to us at all. What are you thinking! How can you justify allowing a foreign company to dump tailings on our National Forest property and ending up costing US, the American Taxpayer monies to rectify the messes they will make the habitats forever destroyed, water table depletion, and just destroying our beautiful countryside? Its insane!

And other questions are raised as well:

- 1. How will surface water quantity and water quality in Davidson Canyon and Cienega Creek be protected?*
- 2. How will Rosemont Copper prevent wells in nearby residential and agricultural areas from being depleted and how will they compensate the*

landowners? Our property values will plummet! I wouldn't buy here again if the mine were already here, with all it's trappings!

3. What sensitive, and threatened and endangered species, might be affected by the mining proposal and how will impacts on these species be mitigated?

4. How will natural habitat and wildlife corridors be affected by the mining proposal and a proposed pipeline and how will these impacts be mitigated?

5. How does Rosemont Copper propose to prevent toxics from leaching out of the waste dumps and into the groundwater?

6. How will Rosemont Copper compensate Pima County for the damage their large, heavy vehicles will do to Highway 83?

7. How will Rosemont Copper guarantee the safety of school buses, tourist, and commuter traffic on Highway 83 given that, every 10-15 minutes, there will be large, heavy vehicles carrying dangerous chemicals and materials?

8. What studies have been done to determine how far and in what direction the airborne materials will travel and what their composition will be? And since I am between the two sites, this really concerns us!

9. What will be done to protect nearby residents from toxic airborne materials?

10. What will be done to protect nearby residents, wildlife, and recreational users in the Coronado National Forest from the deleterious impacts of daily blasting?

11. Given that the mine expects to operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, how will the dark, night skies of the region be protected?

12. What will the cumulative impacts be of this mine and other proposed mining operations in the vicinity on wildlife, water quality, water quantity, and air quality?

13. How does Rosemont Copper propose to protect the long-term

economic health of local communities?

Johnnie and I have worked long and hard to have our beautiful home and property on the beautiful, peaceful Scenic Route and fear it is all crashing down around us. Please stop this insanity. It's just not reasonable.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara & Johnnie Raley



sweedlb@comcast .net

03/13/2008 02:34 PM

To: comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us

cc:

Subject: Rosemont Copper project EIS

To: Jeanine A. Derby, Forest Supervisor

I am writing to recommend that the NEPA review find that the use of the Coronado National Forest land for an open-pit copper mine is not environmental sound. I Understand that almost 80 percent of the land for this project would be public land, much of it the National forest.

My main concern deals with the depletion and contamination of our precious, ever disappearing groundwater. In addition, the permanent devastation of the landscape is not in the best interest of all users of the forest. How many recreational visitors to the forest want to gaze upon a landscape scarred by such a mine? I'm sure that other uses of the forest will plummet, once mining commences. We know from previous mining projects, that no matter what the mining companies promise, the land is never restored.

The suburbs of a million person community is no place for a mile wide open-pit copper mine, especially if public lands are used for the project.

Thank you the opportunity to comment.

Barry M. Sweedler
134 N. Understory Lane
Tucson, AZ 85748



"LARRY H LOCKHART "
<gardengoddess 2@ms
n.com>

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont Mine

03/13/2008 02:25 PM

Why are we the public allowing the destruction of the Santa Rita Mountains? As soon as--perhaps 20 years--the people with the reason for the destruction will be long gone back to wherever. While we will remain with a wounded landscape. Is there a way to divert the energies of the company to do reconstruction instead of destruction. That way the company won't go out of business, and will not go somewhere else in the world to destruct the landscape.



"Rose Robuck "
<Rose@laposadagv .co
m>

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Rosemont mine

03/13/2008 02:15 PM

How can you allow this mining to happen. Rosemont paid 12 million dollars for the private land they want to mine. And you are going to give this rich company our public land at 1872 prices this is criminal. This mine should not get away with destroying our national forest. The Davidson canyon should be protected for years to come. What are we going to leave our children open mine pits in our beautiful Santa Rita mountains. This has to be stopped. Would China sell us lands at 1872 prices? Or Japan? Yet our national forest are unprotected and the ore will be going to Japan. How can you let this happen. If we need the money so bad why not sell the land at market value which should be 36 million dollars. If we cannot stop Rosemont from mining the 995 acres this should be the only acreage they are allowed to destroy. Don't let them get the other land to destroy also. It also has been brought to my attention the are going to destroy the west side of the Santa Rita's also. Green Valley is also going to see the open pit and the ridges of the mountain tops are going to be destroyed also. Many people enjoy this view every day, I was born in Tucson and the mountains are very special to many people. The Santa Ritas should be protected like the Rincon mountains are. And if they need 5000 gallons of water a minute to run this mine make them use CAP water not our pure drinking water from Sahuarita heights. We may be poor people living in trailers but we were here first. Taking the water from us is going to destroy Sahurita Heights, we are going to sink if they pump 5000 gallons of water a minute from 1200 feet below the ground for 20 years. These 1872 mining laws must be changed before America is one big open pit mine. We cannot allow this to happen to our children. Haven't China and Japan ruined their land don't let this happen in America to help foreign interest.

Please help us Rose Robuck