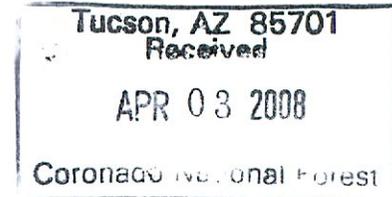




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April 1, 2008



By Overnight Courier and Facsimile:

*Mr. Corbin Newman
Regional Forester
U.S. Forest Service Region 3
Office of the Regional Forester
333 Broadway SE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102*

*Ms. Jeanine Derby
Forest Supervisor
Coronado National Forest
Office of the Forest Supervisor
300 West Congress Street
Tucson, Arizona 85701*

Re: Letter Dated March 27, 2008 from Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords; Rosemont Copper Company

Dear Mr. Corbin and Ms. Derby:

I am in receipt of the aforementioned letter, which is attached to this letter as Exhibit A. As the authorized officer for the lead agency on the NEPA process for the Rosemont Mine Plan of Operations review, please acknowledge this request for a meeting date at the soonest possible time. We request that the meeting be held in Albuquerque at the Regional Foresters office, or other suitable location that allows attendance of the regional and supervising Foresters, as well as our legal counsel.

As the proponent of the project that is the subject of the ongoing NEPA process, we were dismayed to first learn of the letter, subsequent meeting and purported agreement after the fact. We believe that failure to provide reasonable notice or consultation with project proponent was a serious oversight. Assuming that Congresswoman Giffords was indeed speaking for the USFS in her letter and subsequent press conference (see comments attached to this letter as Exhibit B), we seek to discuss the items announced by Congresswoman Giffords. We have requested to meet with Congressman Giffords to brief her regarding this project in the past and have met with her once. As any other member of the public, we welcome her input and involvement on our project during the scheduled public comment period.

In the aforementioned letter and the public statements made following the meeting referenced in the letter, there are three items of concern. First, we have an existing Memorandum of Understanding, FS Agreement No. 08-MU-11030510-010 dated March 5, 2008 (the "MOU") entered into between the USDA Forest Service Coronado National Forest (the "USFS") and Rosemont Copper Company. The MOU provides, in Section D.5, that the agreed upon timetable and schedule set forth in Attachment 2 will not be changed without working with Rosemont on a "mutually acceptable schedule revision." Since we were never contacted about a purported schedule change, we are sure that there must be some misunderstanding about this change in schedule. The MOU does not permit unilateral changes to the agreed upon timetable by the USFS, so we need to discuss this item further.

If it is the desire of the USFS to discuss a revision to the agreed upon timetable based on changed factors, we are happy to discuss it further with you. As you will recall, we were agreeable to the addition of another public meeting in Vail, Arizona. Rosemont Copper Company is in favor of allowing extensive public participation in the NEPA process, as it will result in a more thorough and defensible analysis. However, given the tremendous amount of knowledge and information already available about this project, as well as the organized groups that have been monitoring the project for many years and have websites devoted to news and information about the project, we fail to understand why we need expand the period for scoping by four times the amount of time as originally scheduled. We should talk about what is appropriate under the circumstances, to allow the public an even fuller opportunity to participate in the process.

The second item of concern arises from certain statements regarding the selection process for SWCA as the USFS's NEPA Contractor. As you know, while Rosemont Copper Company stated a preference for SWCA because of its mining experience, the ultimate selection of SWCA was made by the USFS. Please let us know what issues there are regarding the selection of SWCA. We believe that the process followed is the normal and customary process. Also, we would like some clarification about what role a senior member of Congressman Giffords staff will play in this review.

Finally, there is mention of a group being formed with appropriate government officials, community groups and members of Congressman Giffords staff. Again, while we welcome the comments and input of any stakeholder group, we need clarity on the exact nature and role they intend to play in the process. Rosemont Copper Company is fully supportive of all public participation so long as it is absolutely clear that the decisions regarding actions are those of the USFS alone.

We believe that our extensive engagement with the public and stakeholder groups already and outside of the NEPA process has helped us make a good project an even better project. We are confident that this process will be helpful to us and the USFS in the ultimate decision making process. I look forward to hearing from you regarding a scheduled meeting at your earliest convenience.

Best regards,

ROSEMONT COPPER COMPANY



Gil Clausen
President

Cc: The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords
J. Sturgess
S. Strunk, Esq.
R. Anderson, Esq.
N. James, Esq.