



MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 24, 2010

TO: The Honorable Chairman and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

FROM: C. H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

RE: Rosemont Mine Air Quality Permit Application

On September 23, 2010, the Pima County Department of Environmental Quality (PDEQ) issued the attached incomplete determination for the Rosemont Copper Mine's (RCM) air quality permit application. RCM now has 60 days from receipt of the letter to submit the requested information.

The two key issues which lead to the incompleteness determination are the following:

1. The application omitted information regarding the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). In order to determine the relationship between the NEPA process and the air quality permit application, RCM must provide additional information explaining the relationship and any proposed air quality mitigation measures.
2. RCM did not provide the required Potential to Emit (PTE) calculations. In order to determine the appropriate source category for the proposed mine, PTE calculations based on maximum design capacity must be provided.

Upon receipt of the information, PDEQ will continue to process the information as required under Pima County Code Title 17.

As you know, recent radio advertisements have encouraged listeners to call the Board of Supervisors to "protest Pima County officials' deliberate delay in issuing a permit for the Rosemont Mine." We will be contacting all individuals who left messages with contact information in response to those ads and informing them of the determination regarding the permit.

PDEQ posts all relevant information regarding RCM's permit application on their website at www.deq.pima.gov. RCM's response to the PDEQ's incompleteness determination will also be posted as soon as it is available.

cc: John Bernal, Deputy County Administrator
Ursula Kramer, Director, PDEQ

