



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL CENTER
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C. H. HUCKELBERRY
County Administrator

October 6, 2006

Janine Derby
Forest Supervisor
Coronado National Forest
300 West Congress
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Re: Rosemont Mine Plan of Operations

Dear Ms. Derby:


Attached is a memorandum to the Pima County Board of Supervisors transmitting comments and concerns regarding the proposed Rosemont Mine in the Santa Rita's. Reviews by various County departments are included, as are an audio CD, video, and comment cards from the October 3, 2006 Board meeting where the mine proposal was discussed. It is my understanding that you reviewed the July 31, 2006 plan of operations submitted by Augusta and found it to be insufficient and in need of more detail. The County reviewed this plan of operations, and will continue to review future drafts and participate fully in the NEPA process, including development of the Environmental Impact Statement. Your staff has stated that constructive input on environmental impacts and mitigation will assist you in this process, and the County is more than willing to provide just that.

In November 2000, the County and the then Coronado National Forest Supervisor entered into a Memorandum of Understanding for cooperative planning related to the County's Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan. It is in this spirit of cooperation that I ask you to support five performance criteria that any proposed mine in this location should have to meet. The criteria are detailed in the attached memorandum, and include conformance to the County's Conservation Lands System guidelines, no impact to water in the Cienega Basin and Cienega Creek, concurrent reclamation, visual impacts, and an environmental enhancement endowment. These five performance criteria address the County's present major concerns with a mining project in this location.

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Thank you for the information the Forest Service has provided to my staff to date regarding this proposed mine. I look forward to working with you throughout this process.

Sincerely,



C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

CHH/jj

Attachments:

Memorandum to the Board of Supervisors Dated October 5, 2006
Video of October 3, 2006 Board of Supervisors Meeting
Audio of October 3, 2006 Board of Supervisors Meeting
Written Public Comments from the October 3, 2006 Board of Supervisors Meeting

c: The Honorable Chairman and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Beverly Everson, Forest Geologist, Coronado National Forest.
Sherry Barrett, Assistant Field Supervisor, Southern Arizona, United States Fish & Wildlife