Mr. C. H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator  
Pima County Administrator's Office  
130 W. Congress St.  
Tucson, AZ 85701-8171

Dear Mr. Huckelberry:

REQUEST FOR COOPERATING AGENCY STATUS: ROSEMONT MINE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Thank you for your letter of July 18, 2007, requesting that the Forest Service consider Pima County as a potential cooperating agency in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review of the proposed Rosemont Mine project. The President’s Council on Environmental Quality, whose regulations govern Federal agency NEPA compliance, encourages agencies with jurisdiction by law and/or special expertise to assist a lead agency in the NEPA process (40 CFR 1501.6). The expertise you offer will be a valuable asset in this endeavor. Please note that I will be sending a formal letter of invitation to the County and other potential cooperating agencies in the near future as we prepare to initiate the NEPA review of the proposed project.

At present, we are in the process of reviewing a Mine Plan of Operations (Plan) for the Rosemont project. We invite you to review the Plan along with us; it is posted on the internet at http://www.augustaresource.com/section.asp?pageid=4301. Our goal is to complete the Plan review by September 14, 2007. Forest Geologist Beverley Everson, Rosemont Mine project manager, is leading this review and is the point-of-contact for comments that you may wish to offer. You may telephone Ms. Everson at (520) 388-8428 or contact her by electronic mail at beverso@fs.fed.us with any questions about the project and the Plan.

Sincerely,

JEANINE A. DERBY  
Forest Supervisor