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2/23/08 2008

Coronado National Forest
Beverley Everson
300 W. Congress St.
Tucson, AZ 85701

RECEIVED MAR 04 2008

Dear Beverley:

I understand that Augusta Resource Corporation, a foreign mining company based in Canada, has submitted a 2007 version of the incomplete 2006 plan of operations you rejected. I understand that you are in the process of deciding whether the 2007 version is complete enough to evaluate as required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

I urge you to reject the mine proposal. A large open pit mine in the Santa Rita Mountains is incompatible with the current local and regional economy and would cause both water quality and quantity problems. Since this company has no mining track record on which to judge their ability to mine responsibly, it would be irresponsible to risk the environment and economic health of Southern Arizona by approving the proposal.

Please keep me informed of any movement on this plan by the Coronado National Forest. Please also add me to your mailing list so that I may also be notified of any other mining or mineral exploration actions or proposals in the Coronado National Forest.

Additional comments:

Thank You,

Name: William A. Oates

Address: P.O. Box 504

City, State, Zip: Sonita, Ariz. 85637