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"Richard Calabro "
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04/03/2008 05:39 PM

Please respond to
"Richard Calabro"

To: <comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us>
cc:
Subject: Proposed Rosemont Copper Project EIS.

I am submitting the attached comments on the proposed Rosemont Copper Project EIS.

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e-mail: r.a.calabro@att.net Apr 3 '08 EIS Comments.doc

Date: Thursday, April 3, 2008

From: Richard A. Calabro

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To: Rosemont Team Leader

Subject: Proposed Rosemont Copper Project EIS

I object to the fact that Augusta Resource Corporation has not yet completed the studies and documentation requested when the Forest Service rejected their second Mining Plan of Operation. For example, the hydrologic studies are not yet complete, therefore the hydrologic impacts cannot yet be determined.

I demand that the Forest Service STOP all activity at Rosemont by Augusta until the NEPA process is complete. Demand that the Forest Service not let Augusta piece-meal this mine, thereby avoiding REAL and meaningful environmental analysis of the impacts.

I request that the CUMULATIVE IMPACTS of all the new mining proposals in the area be considered in the EIS. Currently, in addition to the Rosemont Mine, there are several calcium carbonate/limestone mine proposals in the Davidson Canyon area, and several copper/silver mine proposals in the Patagonia Mountains, Canelo Hills and San Rafael Valley. All of these mines would use Highway 83 to transport their chemicals and explosives.

I demand that there be NO revision to the Forest Plan to accommodate Augusta! The Forest Service should NOT revise the Forest Plan to accommodate mining. The 1872 Mining Law does not require the Forest Service to revise this plan to accommodate mining. If Augusta's Mining Plan of Operation (MPO) cannot meet the current standards and requirements of the Forest Plan, then the Forest Service must deny the mine.

I ask that the process be fair! Make the mining plan and additional materials submitted by Augusta easily available to the public for review. Not everyone has internet, so make sure that hard copies are distributed throughout Southern Arizona.

I demand that Pima County, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Arizona Game and Fish, and the Arizona State Office of Historic Preservation be included as "cooperating agencies," at a minimum in the EIS process.

I demand that the Forest Service conduct a validity exam on all mining claims Augusta wants to use for their mine waste, tailings, and other facilities. Unless these claims are valid, Augusta has no real legal right to use our public land for their dump.

Media must be at all public meetings to record all sides of issues raised and the FS itself must provide a general presentation to the public and media at these hearings. Federal political leaders recognize the importance of town hall-type meetings, and the FS must again remember and implement the intent of democratic public meetings: the opportunity for open and fair debate.

Extend the comment period to 60 days AFTER Augusta submits ALL information and data the Forest Service requested in their letter dated Oct. 19, 2007, rejecting Augusta's mining plan last July 2007.