

## KEY FACTS ABOUT THE PROPOSED ROSEMONT MINE

Rosemont Copper and its parent company, Augusta Resource, are spending significant amounts of money attempting to convince southern Arizonans that the proposed, massive Rosemont mine in the Santa Rita mountains would not adversely impact our quality of life. However, when one looks beyond Rosemont's PR spin and examines key facts about this project, it becomes clear that the proposed Rosemont Mine is bad for our environment, our economy and our communities.

**FACT:** Augusta, a Canadian company, is using a law signed in 1872 by President Ulysses S. Grant to take approximately 3,300 acres of our public lands at essentially no cost and turn it into an open pit copper mine and mine waste dump.

*Mine Plan of Operations, Rosemont Copper, July 2007 (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado/rosemont/mpo.shtml>)*

**FACT:** In documents filed with Canadian financial regulatory agency, Augusta Resource discloses that it has no "history of production" and "has never recorded any revenues from mining operations." As a result, there is no track record on which to evaluate Rosemont Copper's willingness or ability to follow through on its promises on how it would operate this mine.

*2011 Annual Information Form, Augusta Resource Corporation, SEDAR, March 31, 2011 [http://www.sedar.com/sedar/sedar\\_en.htm](http://www.sedar.com/sedar/sedar_en.htm)*

**FACT:** Rosemont Copper is proposing to excavate a massive open pit copper mine that would be over a mile across rim-to-rim and more than a half a mile deep. The amount of rock that would be removed would approximately weigh the same as 18,000 aircraft carriers.

*Mine Plan of Operations, Rosemont Copper, July 2007 (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado/rosemont/mpo.shtml>)  
U.S. Department of Navy <http://www.navy.com/about/equipment/vessels/carriers.html>*

**FACT:** The proposed Rosemont mine would have no direct access to a rail line. The only access to the mine site is via scenic State Route 83 and I-10. All of the ore extracted from the mine and all of the equipment, chemicals, and explosives would be trucked on that rural highway. The access routes for the proposed Rosemont Mine runs straight through anticipated growth areas for the City of Tucson.

*Mine Plan of Operations, Rosemont Copper, July 2007 (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado/rosemont/mpo.shtml>)  
Growth Focus Areas, City of Tucson [www.ci.tucson.az.us/pdf/csp-growth2.pdf](http://www.ci.tucson.az.us/pdf/csp-growth2.pdf)*

**FACT:** Unlike every other industrial, agricultural, and residential water user in the state, mines are essentially unregulated water users. Groundwater extraction permits for mines are "must issue". As a result, they face no legal restrictions or limits on the amount of water they can extract from the aquifer. Notwithstanding what they say today, Rosemont can pump as much water as they want at any point in the future.

*Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS 45-514) <http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/ars/45/00514.htm&Title=45&DocType=ARS>  
Mine Plan of Operations, Rosemont Copper, July 2007 (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado/rosemont/mpo.shtml>)*

**FACT:** The open pit for the Rosemont Copper mine would be excavated right into the middle of a major aquifer for the region. While the mine is operating, continuous pumping would be necessary to prevent the mine from flooding. According to Rosemont's own planning documents, when the mine closes, pumping would cease and storm run-off would be directed into the pit and a "pit lake" would be created. Experience with other mines indicates that the water in this pit lake could become a highly toxic soup and result in the potential of it seeping into the groundwater—contaminating this aquifer, a key southern Arizona water source.

*Mine Plan of Operations, Rosemont Copper, July 2007 (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado/rosemont/mpo.shtml>)  
Hydrogeology of the Santa Rita Rosemont Project Site Numerical Groundwater Modeling of the Conceptual Flow Model and Effects of the Construction of the Proposed Open Pit April 2008, Tom Myers PhD, Prepared for: Pima County Regional Flood Control District ([www.pima.gov/cmo/sdcp/reports/d51/rosemont.mine.goundwater.pdf](http://www.pima.gov/cmo/sdcp/reports/d51/rosemont.mine.goundwater.pdf))  
Groundwater Flow Modeling Conducted for Simulation of Proposed Rosemont Pit Dewatering and Post-Closure Rosemont Project Pima County, Arizona, Montgomery and Associate prepared for Rosemont Copper, October 2009 [http://rosemonteis.us/techreports/groundwater\\_flow\\_model\\_simulation.pdf](http://rosemonteis.us/techreports/groundwater_flow_model_simulation.pdf)*

**FACT:** The Rosemont mine would permanently destroy a significant area of the Santa Rita Mountain Range. Rosemont's Reclamation Plan makes it clear that post closure, it does not intend to backfill the open pit thus leaving a permanent mile-wide hole, that would result in the creation of a pit lake.

*Mine Plan of Operations, Rosemont Copper, July 2007 (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado/rosemont/mpo.shtml>)*