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Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Rosemont Copper Project

A Proposed Mining Operation
Coronado National Forest
Pima County, Arizona

Volume 2

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Environmental Impact Statement for the Rosemont Copper Project

Coronado National Forest
Pima County, Arizona

Lead Agency:	U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service
Cooperating Agencies:	Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Saguaro National Park, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory – Fred Lawrence Whipple Observatory, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of the Air Force Davis-Monthan Air Force Base 162nd Fighter Airwing, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources, Arizona Department of Transportation, Arizona Department of Water Resources, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona Geological Survey, Arizona State Land Department, Arizona State Mine Inspector, Arizona State Parks, Pima County, City of Tucson, Town of Sahuarita
Responsible Official:	Jim Upchurch, Coronado National Forest, Forest Supervisor 300 W. Congress St. Tucson, AZ 85701
For Information Contact:	Bev Everson, Interdisciplinary Team Leader 300 W. Congress St. Tucson, AZ 85701 (520) 388-8300

Abstract:
This draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) documents the analysis of six alternatives (including a "no action" alternative) that was developed for the Rosemont Copper Project analysis. Alternative 4 – Barrel Alternative is the U.S. Forest Service preferred alternative. The Notice of Intent to prepare this document was published in the Federal Register on March 13, 2008. The public comment period was subsequently extended with a Notice of Intent that was published in the Federal Register on April 29, 2008. The Rosemont Copper Project proposes to mine copper and associated minerals on the Nogales Ranger District of the Coronado National Forest. The proposed activities include an amendment to the 1986 "Coronado National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan."

A final environmental impact statement (FEIS) and a record of decision may be released following public review and comment on this DEIS. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 215.

Reviewers should provide the Forest Service with their comments during the review period of the DEIS. This will enable the Forest Service to analyze and respond to the comments at one time and to use information acquired in the preparation of the final environmental impact statement, thus avoiding undue delay in the decision making process. Reviewers have an obligation to structure their

participation in the National Environmental Policy Act process so that it is meaningful and alerts the agency to the reviewers' position and contentions (Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. *v*. NRDC, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978)). Environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft stage may be waived if not raised until after completion of the FEIS (City of Angoon *v*. Hodel (9th Circuit, l986) and Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. *v*. Harris, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980)). Comments on the DEIS should be specific and should address the adequacy of the statement and the merits of the alternatives discussed (40 Code of Federal Regulations 1503.3).

Send Comments to: Rosemont Comments
P.O. Box 4207
Logan, UT 84323

Date Comments Must Be Received: The 90-day public comment period begins the day after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency publishes a Notice of Availability for the DEIS in the Federal Register. Comments MUST be received before the close of business on the last day of the comment period.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

Documents

forest plan	"Coronado National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan," as amended (U.S. Forest Service 1986)
preliminary MPO	preliminary mine plan of operations (WestLand Resources Inc. 2007)

Other abbreviations

°F	degrees Fahrenheit
ΔE	color difference index
Augusta Resource	Augusta Resource Corporation
CD	compact disc
CO	carbon monoxide
CO_2	carbon dioxide
DEIS	draft environmental impact statement
FEIS	final environmental impact statement
Forest Service	U.S. Forest Service
g	the acceleration due to gravity equaling 32 feet per second squared
ID team	interdisciplinary team
IMPLAN	Impact Analysis for Planning
MPO	mine plan of operations
N_2O	nitrous oxide
NO_2	nitrogen dioxide
NO_x	nitrogen oxides
O_3	ozone
Pb	lead
$PM_{2.5}$	particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter
PM_{10}	particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter
ROD	record of decision
Rosemont Copper	Rosemont Copper Company
Rosemont Copper Project EIS	Rosemont Copper Project Environmental Impact Statement
SO_2	sulfur dioxide
TEP	Tucson Electric Power
the Coronado	Coronado National Forest (the agency)
VOC	volatile organic compound