

ADOPTED BY THE  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL

February 6, 2007

A MEMORIAL

RELATING TO THE CITY OF TUCSON'S OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED  
ROSEMONT MINE.

TO: THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

THE UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

YOUR MEMORIALIST RESPECTFULLY REPRESENTS THAT:

WHEREAS, Augusta Resource Corporation submitted a draft plan of operations to the United States Forest Service on July 31, 2006 to develop the Rosemont Mine on private and Forest Service land within the Santa Rita Mountains south of Tucson; and

WHEREAS, in considering the proposal for the Rosemont Mine, the United States Forest Service via the National Environmental Policy Act will be required to take into account consistency with local land use plans; and

WHEREAS, the land proposed for the Rosemont Mine contains important ecosystems deserving of protection; and

WHEREAS, the typical legacy left behind from prior and existing local mines places undue costs and adverse impacts on taxpayers within the City of Tucson with few local tax benefits, and is therefore unacceptable; and

WHEREAS, a recent study of seventy Environmental Impact Statements for modern-era hard rock mines found that water quality impacts from hard rock mines are consistently underestimated and therefore the mitigation is consistently inadequate; and

WHEREAS, water quality impacts to Davidson Canyon and Cienega Creek would be detrimental to rare riparian habitat along the creeks, the endangered species within the creeks, and the high quality water supply to the Tucson Basin; and

WHEREAS, Augusta has not shown that the Rosemont Mine will conform to the Clean Water Act, Stormwater and Section 404 permit requirements for the deposition of dredge and fill materials in waters of the United States; and

WHEREAS, a recent geological survey of the site brings into question the stability of the high wall natural rock formations above the proposed mining pit; and

WHEREAS, there are questions regarding the legal validity of Augusta's Forest Service mining claims due to the fact that the claims are not proposed to be mined for the recovery of valuable minerals, but are instead proposed to be used as a dumping ground for waste produced from mining on Augusta's private land; and

WHEREAS, Augusta has not demonstrated that it has valid Forest Service mining claims; and

WHEREAS, information Augusta has provided publicly to date leaves many questions unanswered and is insufficient to determine whether Augusta could meet performance criteria to address the negative impacts associated with the proposed Rosemont Mine; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Tucson wish to go on record as being opposed to the proposed Rosemont Mine;

NOW, THEREFORE, YOUR MEMORIALIST, THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUCSON, ARIZONA, ASKS:

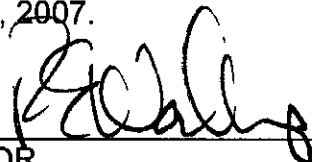
SECTION 1. That the United States Forest Service formally withdraw all of Pima County natural reserve parks from mineral entry, as well as all Federal lands included in National Parks, Monuments, and Forests within Pima County.

SECTION 2. That the United States Forest Service include the lands including the proposed Rosemont Mine into the National Forest Federal Land and Water Conservation Funds for conservation purposes.


SECTION 3. That the United States Congress initiate the permanent withdrawal from mining and mineral exploration of all federal lands within the Santa Rita Mountains area of the Coronado National Forest.

SECTION 4. The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to send a copy of this Memorial to each member of the Arizona delegation to the United States Congress and to the Director of the United States Forest Service.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Tucson, Arizona, this 6 day of February, 2007.

  
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MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
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CITY CLERK

APPROVED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY ATTORNEY

REVIEWED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY MANAGER

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