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**To:** [FS-objections-southwestern-regional-office](#); [Mikki Niemi](#)  
**Subject:** Objection to Rosemont Mine  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 21, 2014 7:17:05 AM

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## Protest Against the Rosemont Mine Proposal

I wrote a prior comment letter on the Rosemont Mine proposal that was not so flattering to the development idea that would strip the USA of vital copper resources in return for a paltry investment that would net foreign nationals billions of the value of Arizona copper. I continue in my opposition to this ridiculous business deal that would use up our groundwater and extract the resultant slurry to Korea for processing and jobs in Korea.

The destruction of our groundwater resources is said to be easily mitigated by the importation of Colorado River water through the Central Arizona Project. More drought in California and the other southwestern states would rapidly dry up the Colorado and force cuts in CAP deliveries. Arizona and Nevada will be the first states to be hit by a cut in CAP supplies, then California. We can't afford to use up our groundwater and we can't afford the risk of another mining operation polluting what supplies there are.

I live on the far southwestern side of Tucson and on a breezy day, the haze from the existing mines fills the air and depending on the prevailing winds, casts a dirty pall over wherever it is. When the dust shroud blows my way, grit will cover the furniture if I don't shut the windows and have filtered ventilation. Tucson stands between Haboob City Phoenix and these mines. We don't need more grit in the air.

Between the drought and human expansion, wildlife is stressed and the prospect of barrenness and more devastated habitat does not bode well for increasing tourism and all the associated economic activity. The amount of habitat that would be impacted by going ahead with the Rosemont Mine proposal would be huge. The problem is that the original mining claim is not large enough to contain a mine on the scale these people envision, so they want to take public land and use it as a garbage heap for their operations, while they take the profit home, leaving the locals to cope with the mess, the loss of a precious resource, the death of wildlife and no copper based cottage industries and ultimately no jobs after a mere twenty years.

I belong to several groups who are protective of our Bill of Rights, particularly the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. Some concern was expressed by members that the last lead smelter in the USA has been closed, leaving the USA to import lead. This Rosemont copper deal would export Arizona copper to Korea and then copper items could be repurchased by US citizens. I don't like the idea that foreign nationals are in control of our lead and too much of our copper supplies. You can't make brass without copper and most bullets require lead.

Don't trade our resources for a few dollars. Don't destroy our wildlife and our groundwater for short term financial gain for a few. The long term consequences are too great.

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