



Mary Jo Sheldon-DiVito, Esq., CPA

7372 N. Camino Sin Vacas
Tucson, Arizona 85718
520 544-9756
mjsheldondivito@comcast.net

February 13, 2014

Regional Forester/Deputy Regional Forester
USFS Southwestern Region
333 Broadway SE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Also sent Via Fax: ⁵²⁰~~520~~ 842-3173
Pages: 6

Project: Rosemont Copper Project: A Proposed Mining Operation;
Jim Upchurch, Forest Supervisor;
National Forest, Ranger District – Coronado National Forest, Nogales Ranger
Station.

Dear Sir/Madame:

I am writing to protest the devastation proposed for Southern Arizona, Pima County and Tucson. My husband and I have been business people in Tucson for over 35 years. We are invested in Tucson and want to survive. We are fighting for survival. Please, please, please don't disseminate Tucson and the Santa Ritas. We can't allow 250-400 jobs to devastate Southern Arizona. Pima County is an area of over one million people with no water. The city of Tucson could die. This will definitely set Tucson back as a city and human community.

WATER. Lake Mead and Lake Powell are at their lowest levels ever and are expected to go lower. Tucson and Southern Arizona will be cut off first. I don't know what the figures mean when they aren't going to affect the water table levels below 10 feet. Are they talking about the affect after the replenishment of the lost water by using CAP water to recharge the aquifer in Southern Arizona or before? Where is that water coming from since it is clear to everyone that we have no excess water? How will Rosemont replenish the lost water? If they cannot replenish the water they are taking they should be forced to shut down. They say in documented evidence that they will replenish all used water with CAP water.

They talk about all of the money and jobs they will bring to Pima County, the county they are going to cause to die. Pima County won't even get the money required to pay for the roads, freeways and air that they are going to devastate. The money will go to others. A comparative few of the dollars will stay in Southern Arizona and we will lose other jobs.

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The Forest Service should not let the loss of jobs, air, environment, science and optics, astronomy, tourist economy, traffic and road safety, and destroying a mountain range happen. You need to also take into account the human environment and affect.

Please do not let them control the Forest Service as they have done in the past. They have used questionable tactics and intimidation trying to get this mine through. Now they want to be in Santa Cruz County.

I saw an older movie recently where something similar was happening in New Mexico. The Forest Service supported the new investment. But when they realized the new investment was going to kill a centuries old town (because of the water) they changed their mind and took a different position that would save the town.

We saw what the principals of Rosemont Mine did in Italy. Are we willing to have that happen here, devastating what water supply we have? They left those villages with polluted drinking water and walked away.

A foreign company with foreign investors that will directly benefit from the devastation to the Santa Rita Mountain range, are allowed to do so because we as citizens and owners of the forest land they need to devastate can do nothing. We are powerless and have no substantial input, and get no financial benefit. They get the assets for free including all of the lumber. What is wrong with our system?

The Company proposing to do the mining has no experience in this type of mine and no money except what they are able to raise from foreign investors, that will directly benefit. They invest as they see the possibility of the mine happening. Now there is a takeover bid for the company. Rosemont paid relatively little for the land and has spent all their money trying to get the mine approved. That is speculation. They are speculating on something that will affect the survival of Tucson.

Pima County has their share of mines. This one should not be allowed in an area in Southern Arizona, with the population we have, that needs the water to survive. Our water situation has changed since the other mines were approved. In a hundred years Tucson will be gone and the mine will be long gone. The pollution and devastation of the mine will be here for centuries. Tucson has been here for centuries. We love this part of the World. Please help us.

Sincerely,



Mary Jo Sheldon-DiVito, Esquire, CPA

Enclosure: Prior letter with comments dated January 14, 2012