

Pima Association of Governments

A Resolution by Pima Association of Governments to Call for the Preparation of a Full Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Rosemont Mine

Whereas, Augusta Resources has announced its intention to conduct mining operations on mineral leases that it has acquired in an area on U.S. Forest Service lands located in the Santa Rita Mountains, and

Whereas, mining operations significantly and irreversibly affect existing and future land uses on mined lands and adjacent lands, and

Whereas, the size and scope of the proposed Rosemont Mine will have significant but unknown impacts on water supply and water availability in the immediate area, and

Whereas, the area to be affected by mining will result in the loss of lands that are presently used for recreational activities, and

Whereas, mining operations in Pima County and elsewhere have resulted in adverse environmental impacts including loss of habitat, loss of land for recreation, water quality impacts, and disturbed lands resulting in fugitive dust emissions, and

Whereas, the U.S. Forest Service is the principal regulatory agency with oversight and approval authority and that the federal approval process is covered under the National Environmental Policy Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

Therefore Be It Resolved That:

The PAG Regional Council calls upon the U.S. Forest Service as part of its review of the Rosemont Mine application to prepare a full Environmental Impact Statement to address many questions regarding mine operations, including impacts to water.