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Date: October 12, 2007 9:54:06 AM MST
Subject: **Lawmakers oppose Rosemont Mine**

Oct. 12, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lawmakers oppose Rosemont Mine, ask for independent data review

(STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX) - Three southern Arizona lawmakers are opposing the development of the Rosemont Mine in the Santa Rita Mountains and are asking the Coronado National Forest supervisor to recommend an independent review of current data.

Arizona Senate President Tim Bee and Reps. Jonathan Paton and Marian McClure, all of District 30, are concerned about how the operation could impact the land, residents of the surrounding property and the quality of the water supply.

"Our primary objection is the negative impact this operation could have on our residents and local tourist economy," Bee said. "Specifically, we are concerned about the noise, air and water pollution in addition to increased truck traffic on our local highways."

Processing ore greatly impacts aquatic resources and it is not uncommon in our state to have leaks.

"This could result in the release of potentially toxic chemicals into ground and surface waters that drain into Tucson area water supplies," Paton said. "This is unacceptable."

Of equal concern is the ability to replace the water that the mine will inevitably deplete. "We believe that the operation plan the developer submitted does not contain enough information about the impact of this mine on ground and surface water in the surrounding areas," McClure said. "We need more answers."

Bee, Paton and McClure are asking the Coronado National Forest supervisor to recommend that an independent mining and geological consulting firm be allowed to analyze all the current data relevant to the proposed mine.

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