

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON RESOLUTION COPPER PROJECT AND LAND
EXCHANGE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOREST SERVICE, TONTO NATIONAL FOREST

The Forest Service is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) to evaluate and disclose the potential environmental effects from: (1) approval of a plan of operations submitted by Resolution Copper Mining, LLC (Resolution Copper), for mining operations on Forest Service lands associated with a proposed large-scale mine; (2) the exchange of land between Resolution Copper and the United States; and (3) amendments to the Tonto National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.

Resolution Copper proposes mining and ore processing activities, which would take place near the town of Superior, Arizona on a mixture of private, state and Forest Service lands. Copper concentrate would be pumped approximately 22 miles southwest along an existing railroad corridor for additional processing near Magma, Arizona. Tailings disposal is proposed to take place approximately 5 miles northwest of Superior, on 4,400 acres of Forest Service land.

The congressionally-authorized land exchange will transfer to Resolution Copper 2,422 acres of federal land around Oak Flat, located east of Superior. In return, Resolution Copper will transfer parcels of approximately 5,344 acres of private land located throughout Arizona to the United States and, if requested, the town of Superior.

As part of the EIS process, the Forest Service is required to investigate alternatives to various aspects of the Proposed Action described above. The Forest Service is hosting workshops to 1) update the public on the status of the EIS process 2) describe the alternatives development process, and 3) solicit input on the criteria being used to evaluate alternative tailings storage facility locations. The public will provide input as to the relative importance of a variety of environmental and social criteria that the Forest Service will use to evaluate alternative tailings facility locations.

The public workshops will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. The meeting agenda includes: open house at 5 p.m.; presentation at 5:30 p.m.; question and answers at 6 p.m.; and workshop from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

1. March 21, Superior High School, Multi-purpose room, 100 Mary Drive, Superior, Arizona.
2. March 22, Southwest Regional Library, 775 North Greenfield Road, Gilbert, Arizona.

An online version of the workshop will be available for public participation from March 23 through April 5, 2017, at the project website -- www.ResolutionMineEIS.us.

SCOPING REPORT AVAILABLE - The Forest Service has completed the Resolution Copper Project and Land Exchange Scoping Report that summarizes the EIS scoping process and the contents of the scoping comments. The report will be at the project website -- www.ResolutionMineEIS.us – on or about March 10, 2017.

Additional information regarding the project can be obtained from Mary Rasmussen, Project Manager; (602) 225- 5246; mcrasmussen@fs.fed.us.

The proposed project is subject to the Project-Level Predecisional Administrative Review Process under Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 218, Subparts A and B.

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