

RESOLUTION COPPER PROJECT AND LAND  
EXCHANGE EIS PUBLIC MEETING

Held at:

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL LIBRARY  
775 North Greenfield Road  
Gibert, Arizona

April 6, 2016

5:00 - 8:00 p.m. (MDT)

Comments taken by:

Keisha Heflin, CET

1 MS. ROZELLE: All right. Thank you.

2 Good. Got some questions. Let me just sort  
3 of explain how this is going to work. As I said, we're  
4 going to keep this informal. If you want to make a formal  
5 comment, then you need to go back and see the court  
6 reporter in the corner, which you can do at any time  
7 tonight. And we will also be taking notes on all the  
8 questions and all the answers. As well as Jill will be  
9 keeping track of the questions up on the screen, because  
10 we have a running Q & A on the website. And we will be  
11 sure to add these questions, if they're not already there,  
12 along with the answers.

13 So I'm going to have a few people come up  
14 and sit here so they're kind of ready for the questions.  
15 So you can go ahead and you can be first and come on up to  
16 the microphone. And I saw some other hands. So if you  
17 come on up and sit down and be ready.

18 So ask your question, and I'll give you an  
19 opportunity for a follow-up question. And if you do  
20 choose to make comments, I'll keep you to three minutes.  
21 So when you get the 30 seconds left, I'll just let you  
22 know. I got my sign here. And I'll let you know when  
23 your time is up. And the theory is, we'll stick to that.  
24 Now, you can come back if you want to and there's still  
25 time.

1           So I think I got all the rules out of the  
2 way. So go ahead. Come to the microphone, if you would.  
3 Thank you.

4           AUDIENCE MEMBER: My name is Chloe Darion.  
5 And what I'm concerned about is the amount of water that  
6 is going to be used to transport this, like you were  
7 talking about, or go to another facility and it slews out  
8 this water. I'm concerned also about the contamination of  
9 groundwater. I have a well, but Arizona's been in drought  
10 for some time.

11           How much water is this going to be used and  
12 is going to be lost during this process?

13           Also, I'd like to know what about all the  
14 wildlife that's out in the Queen Valley area?

15           There's a large hunting area as far as that  
16 for various animals. Are they going to be pushed into the  
17 wilderness area, where hunting will no longer be allowed  
18 because of it and stuff?

19           Also --

20           MS. ROZELLE: We'll just start with -- so  
21 you were asking how much water's going to be used to  
22 operate the mine? Is that the question?

23           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right. Which actually  
24 will be lost, because they can't get it on.

25           MR. NELSON: So based on Resolution's

1 proposal, they estimate that they will use 500,000 acres  
2 of water. An acre a foot is an area of an acre in size  
3 and then one foot high. So they're proposing to use  
4 500,000 acre feet of water. It is a lot of water. And it  
5 takes a lot of water to process copper ore. But the  
6 biggest -- the biggest factor that effects that water,  
7 consumption is the permanent entrainment in the tailings.  
8 The tailings are very fine engrained and hold a certain  
9 amount of moisture and won't let it go. It won't  
10 naturally drain down through gravity. And so water  
11 consumption is a big issue, and it's a big issue in this  
12 region, in general.

13           So that's a great issue. That's the type of  
14 issue that we're looking for to look at how much water  
15 would the mine consume. And then, you know, we can then  
16 look at alternatives. For example, are there ways to  
17 dispose of tailings that would consume less water? Are  
18 there other ways that they can consume water in the  
19 process?

20           I think your second was about wildlife?

21           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, one question to that  
22 500,000 acre.

23           MR. NELSON: Right.

24           AUDIENCE MEMBER: In what amount of time?  
25 Is that over the life of 40 years?

1 MR. NELSON: Over the life of the mine,  
2 yeah.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right. But still, since  
4 we are a drought state, that's a lot of water.

5 MR. NELSON: That's a lot water.  
6 Absolutely.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. And then, like, the  
8 wildlife, that's a huge area for hunting and stuff, not to  
9 mention camping, ATV, and everything else. But what will  
10 happen to that wildlife? Will it be pushed back up into  
11 the wilderness, where you'll no longer be able to hunt?  
12 Because, number one, this area will be closed for hunting;  
13 number two, you can't hunt in the wilderness areas.

14 MR. NELSON: Yeah. Good question. So our  
15 inner disciplinary team leader Raul is also a wildlife  
16 biologist.

17 That's a perfect question for you, Raul.  
18 Would you take a shot at that?

19 MR. RAUL: Sure. Hi. How are you doing  
20 this evening? First of all, can you hear me?

21 I think that's a great issue, because you  
22 brought up hunting and recreation. I think that's a great  
23 example of an issue that we need to address, including  
24 hunting, you know, fishing. So I recommend that you  
25 submit a comment for that.

1           The -- the other thing is we're going to be  
2 looking at listed species covered under the Dangerous  
3 Species Act, also looking at migratory birds. So we're  
4 going to be looking at the entire group of specific  
5 species. But, in particular, it's going to be covered  
6 under the EIS, under the analysis.

7           But, in general, I think it's important that  
8 if you think that those specific things for hunting and  
9 fishing, I would recommend, you know, addressing those and  
10 specifically for -- you know, you mentioned, you know,  
11 mule, deer, and whatnot. So great example. It's one  
12 thing we're going to have to look at, and we're going to  
13 have to review in the analysis process.

14           MR. TORRES: Thanks, Raul.

15           So one more piece of that one of that,  
16 the -- one of the agencies we'll be working with looks  
17 like it's probably a cooperating agency is in deer hunting  
18 and fish. They've already talked to us about it. And  
19 specifically on the hunting. The National Forest is a  
20 land that will probably have of a big role in this place,  
21 hunting, and some other things too.

22           MR. NELSON: And let me just add one  
23 additional thing. That's -- that's an example of the  
24 question about the effects, what would happen to the  
25 wildlife. And -- and that's a great issue, but we haven't

1 done the analysis yet. So when Raul and his team study  
2 the wildlife and look at migration patterns and various  
3 wildlife that are out there, once those analyses are done,  
4 we can answer that question what would happen to the  
5 wildlife. But at this point, we're just planning the  
6 study and scoping issues. So we really can't give you an  
7 answer of exactly what will happen, but that's what we're  
8 going to work to do through -- with the EIS process.

9 MS. ROZELLE: And if you don't mind coming  
10 back if you still have questions. Thank you. We don't  
11 want to do follow-up until everybody's had a chance.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes. My name is Phil  
13 Austin. I'm the chairman of the East Valley Chamber of  
14 Commerce. A concern I have and the question -- am I too  
15 short -- has to do with the social economic aspect that  
16 you presented in the textile here.

17 The question is is whether you have -- have  
18 or are contemplating the socioeconomic affect, not just to  
19 the Superior area, to the whole east valley of Maricopa  
20 County?

21 And the reason I say that is -- I'll give a  
22 little background of that is our East Valley Commerce of  
23 Chamber study economic developments of small businesses in  
24 the east valley and the high rate of bankruptcies and  
25 failings of those business.

1           And the historic aspect of it is I grew up  
2 in the east valley. My dad had a grocery store. And a  
3 great deal of our customers were miners that lived in this  
4 area and worked in the Superior -- the mines there. So  
5 the concern we have is that the -- that this mine will  
6 have great economic -- positive economic impact. I don't  
7 mean the Superior area, but the whole east valley.

8           And we'd like to -- my question is again  
9 have you considered that in your report? Because we  
10 believe not only the employment, because -- I don't want  
11 to stereotype, but historically in Arizona, a great  
12 percentage of the workers in mines have been Hispanic.  
13 But also for the procurement area in that the Resolution  
14 mining discuss with them if they're open to include  
15 diversity in their procurement process as well as  
16 employment too?

17           So we think that it could have a bloom to  
18 the whole economics of the valley. So we want you to  
19 consider that.

20           MR. NELSON: Yeah. Those are a couple of  
21 great examples of what we discuss, the multiplying effect  
22 of the socioeconomic impacts. We have not yet determined  
23 the -- kind of the spatial goal of the socioeconomic  
24 impact analysis. I wouldn't think that it would  
25 absolutely include the east valley. And so that's a great

1 comment. Ultimately, we're going to have to work with our  
2 socioeconomic specialists who will develop that analysis  
3 and determine whether we need to go further than the east  
4 valley to the whole maybe eastern part of Arizona or  
5 elsewhere.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: If we could be assistance  
7 at East Side Chamber of Commerce, we're certainly  
8 available.

9 MR. NELSON: Okay. Thank you very much.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My name is Judy Shappy. I  
11 use to live near Superior for about seven years, and I'm  
12 familiar with Oak Flats. It's just a really special  
13 place. And we did already talk about water, but I didn't  
14 hear anyone say exactly where does this water come -- what  
15 will be the source of it and could it lead to the water  
16 table dropping? Because, you know, a lot of the projects  
17 we've done have had that effect.

18 So aside from the possible pollution of the  
19 water, I'm wondering what is the exact source and could it  
20 lead to the water table dropping? Thanks.

21 MR. NELSON: So the primary source of the  
22 proposing is what's called bank tap water. It's the  
23 Central Arizona Project, which is water that comes from  
24 the Colorado River. And the bank water is tap water,  
25 which is stored underground. And so there is some

1 potential, I would think, that subsidence could occur.  
2 That's another effects question that we can't answer, but  
3 it's an example of a great issue that we need to look at.

4 They're proposing about 30 groundwater  
5 extraction wells that would be located along that border.  
6 So that's an area where we will have to take a close look  
7 at subsidence.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So extraction wells will  
9 pull the water out to where they can use it for the  
10 flotation process?

11 MR. NELSON: Yes.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. And how far away  
13 are those from the mine?

14 MR. NELSON: Oh. I figure they're about  
15 20 miles or so.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So would that mean --

17 MR. NELSON: They also may take waters  
18 straight from the canals, from the tap water canals water,  
19 which is water from the Colorado River.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So maybe there would be a  
21 lot of piping required to get to where the ore is?

22 MR. NELSON: Yeah. Along that MARRCO  
23 corridor where they're proposing to install a pipeline  
24 transporting the concentrates by slurry, there would also  
25 be water pipelines and electrical infrastructure and other

1 infrastructure. That's along that corridor where it's an  
2 existing railroad track now.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thanks.

4 MR. NELSON: Yeah. Thank you.

5 MR. TORRES: If I could just add a little  
6 bit to the water source question about that. We mentioned  
7 earlier that over the life of the project that we'd use  
8 about a 500,000 acre. Today, as described in the plan of  
9 operations, they require rights to supply to about  
10 312,000, which is about 60 percent of that 500k. And  
11 according to the submitted plans of operation, which  
12 you've seen these numbers we've disclosed, it's a volume  
13 one of their plan. That amount will allow the project to  
14 move forward for at least the first 25 to 27 years. And  
15 they've identified potential sources for making up the  
16 short fall for years 27 to 40 some way other than fresh  
17 groundwater. And so there's -- there's that to consider.

18 There's also another thing to consider in  
19 that the forest service in and of itself has very little  
20 regulatory authority over groundwater supplies or water  
21 supplies in general in the state of Arizona. That's  
22 usually governed by the Arizona Division of Water  
23 Resources and other folks like that.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

25 MS. ROZELLE: Yes, sir.

1                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm just the right height  
2 here. My name is Richard Davis. And I spent about  
3 16 years in the Department of Energy and was occasionally  
4 involved in the environmental impact statement  
5 preparation. How long do you anticipate it will take to  
6 complete an EIS?

7                   MR. NELSON: That's a good question. It's a  
8 tough question, because in the scoping process, we're  
9 going to define the scope of what that study is. And so  
10 we really don't know how hard the study is going to be  
11 until we identify the issues and figure out what all the  
12 issues are. All the issues which we're going to need to  
13 study, which I think it's going to be at minimum about  
14 five years, but it certainly can be longer.

15                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: This act, which is  
16 intended to convey this land had language, in it -- which  
17 says it's the intent of Congress that this land exchange  
18 be completed within one year in an active legislation.

19                   Was that in the language? This was -- this  
20 is the -- out of 687. That I believe goes far.

21                   MR. BOSWORTH: So that might have been some  
22 of the intent of some of the folks that introduced this  
23 legislation commission with the language in the act that  
24 got passed and signed by the president. The only time  
25 frames -- there's a couple time frames in that act, a

1 couple of them deal with special discriminate request from  
2 Resolution to do discriminate for drilling in a certain  
3 time frame on that.

4 And also there's a time frame of three years  
5 to complete special management area plans for the  
6 potential area. It's not evidence to the mine itself.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So in total that exchange  
8 is not going to take place until the EIS is completed and  
9 approved.

10 MR. BOSWORTH: True.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

12 MS. ROZELLE: All right. Yes, ma'am.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hello. I'm Jennifer  
14 Hines. I live in Mesa, which I don't believe is in the  
15 Tonto National Forest. Is it?

16 MR. BOSWORTH: The city isn't itself. We  
17 have to have a meeting in the district area. But I was  
18 talking about the cities who were closer to the Salt  
19 River.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: The Salt River?

21 MR. BOSWORTH: That's the national border.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So I am going to be  
23 impacted by this as I'm sure people in Tucson will be as  
24 well. So you said they're going to extend the common  
25 period, and I appreciate that. I hope you will broaden

1 the location. And I think you had said it is National  
2 Forest life. Right? So people come here from all of the  
3 states to use Oak Flat, in specific. And I think they  
4 ought to have input too, which I'm sure they can go  
5 online.

6 Neil, I don't envy you this decision. I  
7 trust you're a good steward of the land, otherwise you  
8 wouldn't be in this field.

9 I just feel like being the sole decision  
10 maker, it just seems to me like even the supreme court has  
11 big decisions to make. I'm just wondering if it's  
12 possible that it could be a three-person panel or a  
13 five-person panel, because I'd hate for you to be the fall  
14 guy.

15 MR. BOSWORTH: So we have -- yeah. So,  
16 ultimately, I'm the decision maker on the project, but  
17 there is a process. So this project had regulations  
18 implemented in the last couple years with the objection  
19 process. So I'm confident this will be objected to. And  
20 then that will go to my boss, and that's if he's not  
21 retired by then, he'll be the studying official for the  
22 objection. So he works it out officially.

23 And then also there's lawsuits, you know,  
24 people can file lawsuits in decisions that they make. So  
25 the court's getting involved. So it's not -- I don't

1 wield that much power on this.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, good for you.

3 So you said Colorado River. Well, we all  
4 probably understand how overtaxed it is. You already see  
5 bathtub ring around Lake Pleasant. And that, probably,  
6 water source is already so overtaxed. I mean, that goes  
7 to all the people in San Diego. Right? So I just can't  
8 imagine how this mining company can be allowed to have  
9 such a big chunk of the water.

10 And also the potential of polluting that  
11 water. I mean, it has happened in that area before, that  
12 the water has been polluted by other mining, except --  
13 just to go on a little bit. The reason why Globe was  
14 looked at as a place for mining is because in the 1800s it  
15 had an abundant water source, which mining requires. I'm  
16 not really sure, 140 years later, we can still say there's  
17 still an abundant water source, can we, in that area?

18 MR. NELSON: You know, that's a great  
19 example of the issue that we'll need to study. We will  
20 look at the effects of water consumption and disclose  
21 those effects in the environmental impact.

22 But as Tom mentioned. The forest service  
23 has no authority over water use. And so there's really  
24 nothing we can do to influence the decisions about how  
25 that water is used.

1           AUDIENCE MEMBER: So you're telling me that  
2 people want to go use their motorboat on the lake, you  
3 wouldn't be able to prevent that? You know what I mean?  
4 You have some --

5           MR. TORRES: That's a -- well, there's a  
6 separate issue there. The use -- so even the forest  
7 service, for example, we get water base from the state  
8 beyond National Forest service land. Forest sites, for  
9 example, we have an in-stream flow water systems in our  
10 streams to make sure that we can continue to have enough  
11 water to support our species.

12           But when we're talking about recreation  
13 where -- on the lakes, we do play a role in management of  
14 that recreation, but it's also kind of a partnership with  
15 other organizations like SRP and stuff like that.

16           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, I have a lot of  
17 questions, but I'm going to cede the floor. And I hope a  
18 lot more people will pose some questions as well. But  
19 I'll stand.

20           MR. BOSWORTH: Okay. Thank you.

21           MS. ROZELLE: Sandy.

22           You don't have to move down. You're fine.

23           AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm trying to decide which  
24 one is most important. Okay. I think I'm going to come  
25 out and ask this question, because I think this is really

1 confusing for me and for a lot of people.

2 And so has the legislation that Senator  
3 McCain snuck into the National Defense Authorization Act,  
4 has that left you with no choice relative to alternatives  
5 in that you can't choose the no-action alternative and --  
6 yeah. So it's a long question, because I'm making it  
7 one -- did that legislation relieve you of your  
8 responsibility to ensure that this is in the public's  
9 interest?

10 MR. BOSWORTH: Okay. So you told me you  
11 were going to ask some questions. All right. So the  
12 first question. I cannot choose the no-action  
13 alternative. So this is -- and I'll just say this anyway.

14 This is -- mining is different. And also  
15 it's private. It's a little bit different, because of the  
16 law that was recently passed.

17 Most decisions I make -- if it's a timber  
18 sale, for example, forest service is local -- you see, we  
19 do a lot of grazing. We do a lot of timber. We do a lot  
20 of mining. We also have recreation. We have multiple  
21 uses of forest.

22 So I can never say, oh, I can't use a  
23 no-action. I can say we'll analyze all the alternatives.  
24 I don't like any of them. We're doing no action. I can't  
25 do that legally because of the mining law and also because

1 of this legislation. So I cannot choose a no-action.

2 That being said, I can -- I can require  
3 mitigation majors. I can require -- we were going to  
4 analyze alternatives for tailing locations, a different  
5 method of mining, a lot of different things to better  
6 inform a decision, leaving a little bit of latitude about  
7 what part of yes can I say here.

8 As far as the second question, no, that does  
9 not relieve me of my responsibility.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I don't know how you can  
11 do that unless you can choose the no-action alternative,  
12 but that's a comment not a question.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, I have a comment  
14 about the way this legislation was passed. I think it's  
15 despicable.

16 And I haven't heard anybody talk about  
17 Devil's Canyon, which is east of Oak Flat. Right here.  
18 It's one of the most beautiful riparian areas in Arizona.  
19 I have pictures of it. I've been down there. It's --  
20 there's wildlife. There's ringtail cats. There's  
21 ocelots. There's -- and I have pictures of them. There's  
22 Gila monsters.

23 And I don't -- I believe that subsidence is  
24 going to interrupt the flow of water to Devil's Canyon,  
25 which is going to ruin it, basically. It's a resource

1 that I believe we should save for our children.

2 Let me show you one picture that I took down  
3 there last year.

4 MR. NELSON: Oh, yeah. Beautiful.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And that's not -- I have  
6 dozens of pictures that are just as beautiful. We really  
7 need to have an analysis of what it's going to do to  
8 Devil's Canyon in that study.

9 Has anybody else brought this up, because it  
10 seems to be, like, very important?

11 MR. NELSON: That's a great issue. During  
12 the period of mining, they're going to pump the  
13 groundwater in order to have dry conditions to facilitate  
14 the mining and that's going to cause its own depression  
15 that's 7,000 feet deep.

16 And one of the things that we have to take a  
17 real close look at is how far will that point of  
18 depression stand out? And will it reduce flows to either  
19 intermittent or perineal region of Devil's Canyon. And so  
20 that's a great example of an issue that we need to study  
21 and tackle that and engage the best hydrogeologist we can  
22 to try and predict that effect and then work to identify  
23 any mitigations that we can come up with to prevent that  
24 from happening.

25 But we can't -- at this point, because we

1 haven't done the analysis yet, we can't say, yes, it will  
2 absolutely affect it or it will absolutely not affect it.  
3 But that's information that we're going to develop and  
4 that we'll share with the public as soon as we get those  
5 analysis going.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, it seems to me  
7 impossible that that would not interrupt the flow in  
8 Devil's Canyon, because it's already very low because of  
9 our drought conditions. It's already under stress. And  
10 there's a lot of wildlife down there. We're going to lose  
11 all that. And that's something that can never be brought  
12 back. And I think it's very important that that is looked  
13 at closely.

14 MR. NELSON: Absolutely. Absolutely. Thank  
15 you.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hi. My name is Tristan  
17 Warner. I was interested -- I know that, in general, the  
18 economy's a little depressed in that area. How does this  
19 project affect the schools in Pinal County? Does it --  
20 will there be funding that goes to them? How does that  
21 work? How is that going to affect them?

22 MR. NELSON: I do not know the answer to  
23 that question. But, you know, that's going to be an  
24 important factor to consider in this socioeconomic  
25 analysis, because, you know, there could be additional

1 stresses on the school system with an influx of new  
2 students. There could also be additional tax revenue.  
3 So, you know, that's another great example of an issue  
4 that needs to be included in the socioeconomic analysis.  
5 And once we go through that process, we'll be able to  
6 answer your question.

7 MR. TORRES: So to give you a little of  
8 clarity on that. I'm not a geologist. So Mark might  
9 correct me after I say this right now. But we're talking  
10 how many royalties. And royalties don't generally go to  
11 the state like they would for coal or oil that's drilled  
12 on National Forest or public land. You'll hear it on and  
13 off out in Wyoming, we're talking about that, and in North  
14 Dakota and Montana. They're getting a lot of money to  
15 schools, because the hard rock mining with cable minerals  
16 don't fight that stream of funding to the state, but they  
17 will fight probably an indirect type effect of site.  
18 Certainly, it provides a large amount of additional tax  
19 revenue.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

21 MR. TORRES: But I can't answer the  
22 specifics of that and how it affects, but it's an  
23 important issue to address.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And then are you doing a  
25 meeting in Phoenix? I know you had said you had extended

1 the time period. Are you also going to have a meeting  
2 somewhere in Phoenix?

3 MR. BOSWORTH: So we're talking about that  
4 right now. It's in the upgrade until the 18th. We  
5 haven't committed to official locations right yet. We  
6 want to finish this one and take a look at it and figure  
7 out if we have gathered all the issues of these locations,  
8 especially the communities impacted and we'll have to do  
9 additional meetings at. We also talked about with the  
10 tribes. If they want to have some meetings on the  
11 reservation, we'll deal with that.

12 The intent here was trying to get Phoenix  
13 and the east side a little bit at the same shot, you know,  
14 because it's already taking some time to coordinate and  
15 all of that. So that was the intent here. That's what  
16 we're trying to do here.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thanks, you guys.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hi. My name is Jolene  
19 Newton. I have a question about the water treatment and  
20 meeting the plans that Resolution Copper offered. I'm  
21 under the understanding that at least some of the water  
22 that they will be using, even underground, will be  
23 transferred to the water treatment plant in Superior to be  
24 treated.

25 My question is is the water treatment plant

1 in Superior robust enough to sustain that type of activity  
2 when you add to it the potential of additional households  
3 and businesses in the area. And if not, will it be left  
4 up to the taxpayers to see that that's done or will  
5 people's water rates go up? How will this affect the  
6 local community in regards to water treatment?

7           And then just a second quick thing about the  
8 socioeconomic impact the gentlemen mentioned about how  
9 that could be felt in the east valley as well. My concern  
10 is that while the area of Superior and perhaps the area of  
11 the east valley would benefit from that type of boom and  
12 taxes and so forth, however, we have to remember that the  
13 life of the mine is finite. And if it is only going to  
14 last for 50 years, there must be a plan in place for the  
15 people who will lose their jobs when the mine closes, for  
16 the potential impact on the water resources, for the  
17 schools. Because if the mine is operational within ten  
18 years, the students who are in our elementary schools  
19 today are likely to be the ones that will be laboring in  
20 the mines. And if this is the case, we need to be certain  
21 that their long-term -- their long-term employment in  
22 their life and probably their children, if the mine lasts  
23 for 40 years or 50 years, that second generation of miners  
24 by the time their 30 or 40 years old, by the time they're  
25 middle aged, will no longer be employed.

1                   What type of re-training programs or  
2 educational programs will be available to those people?  
3 And will the taxpayers in the state of Arizona be  
4 responsible for that?

5                   MS. ROZELLE: So the first question was  
6 around the water treatment plant in Superior.

7                   MR. NELSON: So my understanding of  
8 Resolution's proposals is that they would construct a  
9 water treatment plan on their mine site that would be  
10 dedicated to treating water at the mine. There could  
11 be -- water that requires treatment at the mine site  
12 itself would be treated by Resolution.

13                   But you also bring up an issue that needs to  
14 be a component of the socioeconomic impact analysis in  
15 that if there is -- if Superior grows, for example, by  
16 like 5,000 people within an influx of workers plus their  
17 families, there could be -- it could affect the overall  
18 capacity of the existing public facilities to, you know,  
19 manage things like treatment of water from households and  
20 that sort of the thing. So that's an issue that we need  
21 to take a look at in socioeconomic analysis and public  
22 services.

23                   The second question, what would happen after  
24 the mine closes and the jobs end and what would happen to  
25 those workers...

1                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: Not only the workers, but,  
2 you know, when people invest in an area and they buy  
3 homes, you know, that's something to think about. Then  
4 we're looking at bankruptcies. We're looking at boarded  
5 up businesses. This isn't something that may happen. It  
6 will happen when the mine closes.

7                   MR. NELSON: Right. That's an inherent part  
8 of the mining cycle. You have the construction phase and  
9 the mining and the active operations phase and the mine  
10 closure phase. And at that point the ore body's mined out  
11 and the mine will shut down.

12                   And so that's another aspect that was  
13 actually brought up here at last night's meeting or the  
14 night before was that when we do that socioeconomic impact  
15 analysis, we can't just focus on one phase. We can't just  
16 focus on the construction phase and when it will provide  
17 the most jobs or just on the operations phase. We need to  
18 make sure we include the entire mining process through  
19 that analysis.

20                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: And, additionally,  
21 typically, in mining areas. You know, and I'm thinking  
22 about eastern Kentucky and places here in Arizona. These  
23 are already socioeconomically depressed areas and people  
24 don't have the same advantages for a secondary education.  
25 They're looking at the potential for disability and

1 long-term health issues, quality of life, length of life.  
2 So these are all things to be considered after the mine  
3 closes.

4 Will there be a program in place for these  
5 individuals? If that's something that we could start  
6 thinking about now instead of the day that people get  
7 their pink slip and get laid off, it could save a lot of  
8 problems, affect a lot of problems down the road.

9 MR. NELSON: That's an interesting idea. I  
10 don't have any proposal for that at this point. But it's  
11 an interesting idea to bring up and definitely worthwhile  
12 to think about and discuss.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

14 MS. ROZELLE: All right. Yes, sir.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hi. My name is Tony  
16 Hernandez. And I guess -- you guys are looking at me.  
17 But, you know, I want to start off by saying that I'm a  
18 retired miner and all I did was underground mining for a  
19 little over 20 years. So I've done blockade mining. I  
20 worked at Magna when it was Magma Copper. And, you know,  
21 when it was a United States mine; not in form of a  
22 company.

23 All right. So a little bit about the water  
24 issue, on the 4200 level, when I worked in this, I had to  
25 work the pump stations. And sometimes when my place was

1 closed down that I was mining -- and they have big  
2 bulkheads. Probably as big as from here to here that they  
3 would put lines that would shoot the water that was being  
4 pumped in. Okay. So that bulkhead standing next to me  
5 would scare -- I mean, I worked the Colorado River. You  
6 know, I've been up the Colorado and heard it, and I can't  
7 even be compared to what that river underground was  
8 sounding like. I mean, there is -- that water that will  
9 stop with the subsidence of the blockade, because I've  
10 done that kind of mining. It will divert the water. That  
11 huge river is going to shoot other places. It will affect  
12 Maricopa County. It may impact maybe Pinal County, the  
13 water being used from the Central Arizona is going to  
14 allow them.

15 All right. And the main thing about -- you  
16 said something about the environmental impact that you had  
17 no idea what kind of a health impact it would have. Well,  
18 I can tell you and without conspiracy theory, because I am  
19 from Superior. And the mine that was left behind, which  
20 is Magma, there is a high rate of cancer, which I can talk  
21 about already. And over 300 cases right now and growing  
22 continually.

23 On the south -- on the northwest side,  
24 there's over 300 homes that got at least 90 percent  
25 arsenic in their homes on the ground. All Resolution did,

1 you guys, was to cover it up; cover the back of yards with  
2 gravel and thinking that that's all right, that that's  
3 going to stop the arsenic and all this. It doesn't. It  
4 doesn't solve anything.

5 And this is the part -- because you know  
6 what? When they leave and when -- they Resolution, Rio  
7 Tinto leaves, that destruction will still be there. Kids,  
8 their kids, and kids yet to be born are the ones that are  
9 going to suffer.

10 Jobs. When Magma left, there was nothing.  
11 When Magma closed down, was shut down, people -- you know,  
12 high rate of divorce rate and whatever. So it is a major  
13 problem with what's happening there.

14 And as far as the tailings go, you know  
15 what? Tailings look like this. And with the wind storms,  
16 you guys are here in Maricopa County, in Gilbert, in all  
17 of Phoenix, because these tailings are up close and not on  
18 the ground, you know what, you'll get all the dust. You  
19 know, so will you. So I'm just letting you know. Thanks.

20 MR. NELSON: Thank you.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Silvy Barrett, Queen  
22 Creek. I have a couple of statements. But, I guess, the  
23 mining operation, it sends the water to its filtration  
24 plant. What kind of minerals or what is pulled out in  
25 that filtration pump that when it comes down to the new

1 Magma irrigation district in the San Tan Valley that it  
2 has to be cut in a 10 to 1 ratio, one part mine water that  
3 has already gone through the filtration system to ten  
4 parts of tap water? And what -- what is still in there  
5 that it has to be cut to such a degree? And also --

6 MS. ROZELLE: Could they just answer that  
7 one and then --

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

9 MS. ROZELLE: All right.

10 MR. NELSON: So are you referring to the  
11 water that they currently treat and discharge?

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

13 MR. NELSON: And they're blending it to --

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: With tap water in a 10 to  
15 1 ratio. So if it's already gone through a filtration  
16 system, first of all, I guess, what -- do you know what  
17 they pulled out of the water that it had to go to the  
18 filtration system? Once it left the filtration system up  
19 in Superior and it was piped down to the new Magma  
20 irrigation district, what is still in that water that it  
21 has to be cut in a 10 to 1 ratio, one part mine water, ten  
22 parts tap water? And what is in there? Is it like --  
23 does it still have arsenic?

24 MS. ROZELLE: So you're asking about the  
25 current operation?

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

2 MS. ROZELLE: Do you even know the answer to  
3 that?

4 MR. NELSON: That is a very interesting  
5 question. I do not know. My understanding is that water  
6 is acidic. The mine water is acidic and likely contains  
7 high concentrations of sulfate and things, other metals  
8 that are soluble acidic water such as copper. And that  
9 they treat the water using alkaline solution. So they add  
10 a chemical. I believe they use sodium bicarbonate, but I  
11 could be wrong. They add a chemical to raise the pH up to  
12 neutral and that causes the dissolved minerals to be  
13 precipitated.

14 But I don't know the details of the  
15 efficiency of that treatment system for their discharge  
16 standards before they treat it. Often blending is done  
17 with water treatment plant discharge. And the whole thing  
18 is the solution -- the solution dilution. So they may be  
19 required to dilute some solvents into that water in  
20 order to meet a discharge standard prior to discharge.

21 That discharge would be regulated by the  
22 Arizona DEQ and would be regulated under their authority  
23 to administer the Clean Water Act in the state of Arizona.  
24 So it's really a question that should go to DEQ.

25 But it's very interesting. I didn't know

1 that. Thanks for pointing that out.

2 MS. ROZELLE: And, Tom, do you want to add  
3 that?

4 MR. TORRES: Yeah. I do want to add to  
5 that.

6 So we're sort of speculating on what we  
7 might think that water is being treated for. And just as  
8 a point of clarification. We're going to take that  
9 question. That's Jill's roll over there is capture the  
10 questions and we'll get a more definitive answer so that  
11 we're factually correct. What we don't want to do is  
12 speculate. And we'll share the best information we know,  
13 but I just want to make sure the audience is aware that  
14 we'll capture that question and provide them more of a  
15 detailed answer after we consult with the folks from  
16 Resolution and then post it on our website.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Because it was in your  
18 literature at some point in time, because that's where I  
19 captured that. But I also know that that water has  
20 been -- I'm not sure if it's free or if it's sold to the  
21 farmers. And farmers are then irrigating crops. Now  
22 they're irrigating wheat, I believe it's grains, alfalfa,  
23 hay, and then what happens when -- if I've got a cattle or  
24 whatever, if I'm a rancher, and I give them that water  
25 that had to be diluted, will it show up later like it has

1 in Scottsdale where there's been water that was  
2 contaminated and it's affected the people there?

3 Now, so I give that water to my animals. I  
4 then sale my animal and it becomes my steak, my milk, my  
5 ice cream, all of those products. How safe are those  
6 products after it's been there?

7 And also the slurry. I feel a meeting  
8 should be held in Queen Creek. The Queen Creek area, San  
9 Tan. And that's because that's where the slurry is being  
10 sent. And we, the people, need to know everything there  
11 is to know about the project. Thank you.

12 MR. NELSON: So with respect to the surface  
13 water discharge or groundwater discharge, those types of  
14 discharges are regulated by the Arizona Department of  
15 Environmental Quality. And in the U.S. now we have very  
16 strict water quality discharge regulations. And so that  
17 information would be publicly available from those  
18 agencies. So I don't think you need to be super concerned  
19 about the discharge, because it would have to be  
20 permitted. But those are valid questions. And I'll see  
21 if we can't learn more about it.

22 MS. ROZELLE: Ma'am, did you have a  
23 question?

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She's getting ready.

25 MS. ROZELLE: Oh. All right. You've

1 already -- can we just see if there is somebody who hasn't  
2 gone at all?

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hi. My name is Ray. I  
4 actually live in Mesa. And I have a property in that area  
5 I just purchased.

6 MS. ROZELLE: Just a second. I'm not  
7 hearing you. Do we need to make that higher or --  
8 Go ahead. If you could just start all over.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thanks. I actually live  
10 in Mesa currently, but I have a house that I built in  
11 Queen Valley. So this is kind of interesting to me right  
12 now. I do have several questions. I'm trying to phrase  
13 them the best I can.

14 One of them in regards to property that is  
15 being traded out or exchanged, where's that property --  
16 pretty much, private land is going to go to the forest  
17 service, but what was that used for? Is that already  
18 mined out and it's dead land now that we're putting back  
19 in the forest service?

20 MR. NELSON: Raul, would you like to address  
21 that question about the private parcels that are proposed  
22 for the --

23 MR. RAUL: Yeah. I'll give general  
24 information about it. There's actually some parcels.  
25 There's going to be springs. There's some in San Tan

1 Valley. South Saint Pedro, some of those lands, are right  
2 here, here in Sonoran areas. They got dripping streams.  
3 It's actually really close to being all done. And then  
4 there's parcels on the forestry's side.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: They're private now --

6 MR. RAUL: Correct.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: -- that are going to go  
8 back to the forest service?

9 MR. RAUL: So some of the details about the  
10 specifics --

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What was that land used  
12 for prior the coming back to the forestry?

13 MS. ROZELLE: Yeah. Are you asking what was  
14 the quality of the land?

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah. I mean, I know you  
16 have to do an appraisal on the land to see if it's worth  
17 anything, but if they're going to give you dead land  
18 that's worth about 50 cents on the dollar, 10 cents on the  
19 dollar of the actual claim --

20 MS. HOFFMAN: So I'll try to answer that.  
21 We'll go out and do our own independent valuation of those  
22 lands to make sure, but most of those lands were not  
23 done -- there's not mining already completed on that.  
24 We've already done a preliminary on those lands. The  
25 lands on the forest service that Raul talked about, the

1 bill land. Those are lands that the bill land have been  
2 trying to get for, like, earning values and the wildlife  
3 habitat. And the lands on the forest are the same thing.  
4 They have some recreation values, wildlife, riparian  
5 values on them. And some of them are in holdings that  
6 have been within -- the forest that we have looked at and  
7 valuated that those are parcels that we would like to get.  
8 So they have not been mined out. We will be completing a  
9 complete environmental site assessment on those parcels to  
10 ensure there's not anything hazardous on them.

11 MS. ROZELLE: Do you want to know how the  
12 appraisal process works?

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah.

14 MS. HOFFMAN: Oh. Did you ask about the  
15 appraisal process?

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, no. I'm asking if  
17 they're buying any hazardous --

18 MS. HOFFMAN: It does.

19 MS. ROZELLE: All right. Did you have a  
20 follow-up?

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm more concerned about  
22 the quality of the land itself and whether it was already  
23 strip mined.

24 MS. ROZELLE: I think -- do you feel like  
25 she answered that question for you?

1           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes. But part of the same  
2 questions is why -- why do the tailings have to go on  
3 forest service land? Why aren't they putting it on their  
4 own private land? And once it is on the forest service  
5 land, who's responsible for all the contamination and  
6 cleanups and all those things to be done? Is that falling  
7 onto the forest service, the city taxpayers, or is --  
8 after dumping their stuff there, are they responsible for  
9 maintaining and cleaning up the environment?

10           MR. BOSWORTH: We'll still own that land,  
11 the proposed tailings. We'll have alternative looks at  
12 other locations. They give us a quote on the tailings.  
13 And it's on National Forest's environment. So after  
14 that's done, they'll have ultimate responsibility to  
15 ensure that Resolution maintains that tailing facility,  
16 make sure the company complies with the principal laws  
17 from the water to air, and all those things.

18           Mark, if you want to talk about the bonding  
19 that would be going into place on that?

20           MR. NELSON: Yeah. Their -- the plan of  
21 operations that they submitted is just a proposal. After  
22 the EIS is completed, a final plan of operations will be  
23 prepared that complies with Neil's decision. And that  
24 final plan of operations would include very detailed  
25 requirements for reclamation, for water management, for

1 water treatment, water discharge. And then Resolution  
2 would be required to comply with that plan of operations.

3 And then the forest service would administer  
4 that plan of operations through the life of the mine  
5 through reclamations. And as part of that process, forest  
6 service would also require a reclamation bond. Both  
7 reclamation bond and what we call a post-closure bond.

8 The reclamation bond would provide enough  
9 money to do all the physical reclamation, the earth  
10 moving, the replanting, re-vegetation, we call it, erosion  
11 control. The activities that would be done in that 5 to  
12 10-year period after mining is complete.

13 And so Resolution Copper would be required  
14 to do that work. And in the event that they fail to do it  
15 for some reason, perhaps they went bankrupt or walked away  
16 for any reason, then we would be able to take that  
17 reclamation bond and complete that reclamation ourselves  
18 as required by the plan of operations.

19 The post-closure bond would likely be in the  
20 form of a trust, where Resolution Copper would be required  
21 to provide enough money into an interest bearing account  
22 that the interest from that money could be used for  
23 long-term care and maintenance of the -- of the tailings  
24 facility after that initial reclamation is completed; so  
25 continuing erosion control, if necessary, monitoring

1 maintenance, any residual water treatment.

2 Again, Resolution Copper would be required  
3 to do that work, but the reclamation bond and post-closure  
4 bond would be posted to provide enough money to fund that  
5 work in the event that Resolution doesn't do that work.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And who manages those  
7 bonds?

8 MR. NELSON: The forest service would manage  
9 those bonds.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Not the same people that  
11 are managing the education bonds for our kids?

12 MS. ROZELLE: One more question.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What is molybdenum?

14 MR. NELSON: Molybdenum?

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah, that thing.

16 MR. NELSON: It's a metal. It's used as  
17 alloyed steel.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So it's a hardening --

19 MR. NELSON: It's also used in greases. I  
20 found people who are into mountain biking may have had  
21 mountain bikes with chrome moly front ends or chrome moly  
22 metal components.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hi. My name is Daysha  
24 Murphy. You were just talking about the tailings. I'm  
25 wondering if they have considered any alternatives to deal

1 with the tailings, like dumping them into an active pit  
2 mines that are already finished or whatever? Because  
3 Resolution Copper has a lot of those pits that are left,  
4 why can't they dump their tailings into those pits instead  
5 of creating huge, 600-foot high piles of tailings that can  
6 blow dust down here for everybody here to breathe?  
7 Because we do get big dust storms, the haboobs that we get  
8 or whatever, blowing all that dust down here, because it's  
9 all blowing dust already.

10 So I'm wondering that if they've considered  
11 an alternative and not just dumping the tailings into the  
12 old mines or the old pits? And I'm also wondering if it's  
13 happening near the Arizona Trail?

14 I'm an avid hiker and I see the trails on  
15 the thing there. So I'm wondering if that's going to  
16 reduce your availability to the trails and if it's all  
17 going to be private property?

18 So I'm wondering if you can answer that.

19 MS. ROZELLE: Two questions there. Go  
20 ahead.

21 MR. NELSON: So in terms of alternatives for  
22 the proposed tailings facility, Resolution Copper did look  
23 at that different alternatives. And there's a discussion  
24 of the alternatives in this proposed mine frame of  
25 operations, which is included on the website. So they

1 went through that process, but I think more importantly,  
2 the forest service is going to look at alternatives to  
3 their proposals in the EIS process. And, you know, the  
4 potential for -- for disposing either all or some portion  
5 of the tailings in the mined out pit is a great idea. And  
6 that's something that we'll certainly consider in the  
7 process.

8 MS. ROZELLE: And the second question was is  
9 the tailings facility going to have an impact on Arizona  
10 Trail?

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah. Like, the trail  
12 runs right through there. So I was just wondering if it's  
13 going to have an impact. Because once it becomes --  
14 because already once you leave Oak Flat and you drive  
15 through Oak Flat, you can only go so far, because they've  
16 completely -- it's fenced off and gated off. It's all  
17 private property there now.

18 So is that going to impact my availability  
19 to do a through hike on the Arizona Trail?

20 MR. NELSON: My understanding of the  
21 proposal is that you would still be able to do a through  
22 hike on the Arizona Trail, but it would certainly cause a  
23 major affect to the view shed of that portion of the  
24 Arizona Trail versus what's currently out there.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Because people all over

1 the world come here to see the beauty of our environment  
2 and that destroys it.

3 MR. NELSON: You know, we will look at  
4 alternatives to what they propose to do in terms of  
5 managing the current configuration of the Arizona Trail.  
6 We had a lot of questions at Queen Valley about ATVs and  
7 other off-highway vehicles. It's a popular area for that  
8 type of recreation. So we can take a close look at  
9 recreation in the environmental impact statement and, you  
10 know, see if it's possible to develop alternatives or, you  
11 know, other mitigations to try and lessen the effects on  
12 trail users and other recreation users.

13 MS. ROZELLE: Go ahead.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My name is Christina  
15 Hirsch. Along with him, I plan to retire in Queen Valley.  
16 So obviously a lot of what I heard is concerning. There  
17 is consideration of possibly moving the tailing storage  
18 location. But my question is with -- are there any  
19 economic -- I would assume Resolution Copper made a lot of  
20 its decision and its proposal based on their economic  
21 concerns. So I guess with your decision making authority,  
22 do you have some limits or some areas where you have to  
23 say we have to, you know, be close to what their proposals  
24 are in terms of their economic impact or are you free to  
25 look at that and make the decision that that represents

1 what's good for the land and good for people?

2 MR. NELSON: The forest service is not -- we  
3 don't have the regulatory jurisdiction to prohibit mining  
4 or prohibit their proposed uses for -- it's what we call  
5 activities that are reasonably incident to mining. We  
6 can't totally prohibit it.

7 And the way that relates to your question of  
8 affecting the economics of operations is that Neil could  
9 not require mitigations that are so strict that they  
10 couldn't proceed with their mine. He can't require them  
11 to do an alternative that is so costly that they couldn't  
12 proceed with their mine, because that would affect their  
13 right to develop and composite under the U.S. mining laws.

14 However, Neil has a tremendous amount of  
15 authority to affect the design and the configuration of  
16 the facilities, the location of the facilities, the types  
17 of environmental protection, infrastructure that's  
18 constructed. So he absolutely has authority to affect  
19 their economics, but he can't affect it so much that it  
20 would make the project totally uneconomic.

21 MS. ROZELLE: Okay. Do you have a follow-up  
22 question?

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, I guess. And how is  
24 that decided as to what's prohibitive or not prohibitive?

25 MR. NELSON: We'll work through those issues

1 in the EIS process.

2 MS. ROZELLE: Thank you. Yes, ma'am.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: The only meeting in 20  
4 years where my car breaks down on the way to. My name is  
5 Sylvia Santos, and I live in the Queen Creek area. My  
6 concerns are several with the location of where the  
7 tailings are going to end up. And I understand that  
8 550 acres are going to be used for the facility to house  
9 the slurry and the things like that that's going to be  
10 eventually moved to another location.

11 I was just concerned as to why both the San  
12 Tan area and the Queen Creek area didn't have public  
13 meetings for number one? Because the tail end of where  
14 things are is in our neighborhoods or close proximity to  
15 our neighborhoods and that is a very large concern in an  
16 area where advocacy has been running strong for the last  
17 30 years. And I can attest to it, because I wrote a lot  
18 of articles about a lot of the things that happened out  
19 there for several decades. That's one of my concerns.

20 One of my other concerns is there was a  
21 baseline, according to one of the articles that came out  
22 in the paper, that when there was the mixture of the water  
23 with the water from the mines, the number nine mine, with  
24 the water from the CAP water and brought over to the new  
25 Magna area that the U of A was supposed to be doing a

1 baseline study and then continuing studies. And I want to  
2 know is that specific study available to not only  
3 interested parties but especially to the farmers in the  
4 area that are growing the crops?

5           And I'm concerned because I raise organic  
6 beef. And I have -- I'm going to have my vet pull some  
7 blood on my horses and on my cattle that we do eat. And I  
8 don't know if they're going to be organic anymore as a  
9 result of what may or may not be added to the water.

10           And I know the farmers that are growing east  
11 of the Arizona Farms Road are very concerned. They don't  
12 use a lot of the chemicals anymore that are really good  
13 agents to control weeds because of the potentiality of  
14 what it will do to both human consumption down the food  
15 chain in milk and then beef.

16           But I'm concerned also what it will do to my  
17 registered quarter horses when my foals are born. I'd  
18 appreciate that they not have three eyes in the middle of  
19 their foreheads. Okay. That's number two.

20           Number three, one of my concerns is where  
21 the end product is going before it's transported by  
22 railcar. I'm going to be under the assumption that's  
23 going to take a large amount of electricity. I want to  
24 know if there was a study done by SRP or if it's APS,  
25 because I went to the RS 17, 18, and 19 studies as they

1 grew the populations along the area. And I'm wondering if  
2 that's going to affect the future area of the development  
3 around there, because they've taken -- industrially,  
4 they're taking 550 acres to make I-3 in what was supposed  
5 to be a residential area. And I'm concerned if that's  
6 going to affect the building in that area and the area  
7 directly west of that, if that will make an impact -- if  
8 we're going to have more brownouts, more blackouts when  
9 the summer usages are high. And maybe this won't be a  
10 problem for the next five or ten years, but as the global  
11 warming affect comes in, what will this do down the line?  
12 And I'm very concerned about that for number three.

13 Do I get a chance for four and five?

14 MS. ROZELLE: Not right now.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Probably not.

16 MS. ROZELLE: You probably missed the  
17 beginning part where it's three minutes for comments, but  
18 you can come back after everybody's gone.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Because I don't think that  
20 was quite three minutes.

21 MR. BOSWORTH: So I'm going to answer. You  
22 had questions in there.

23 MS. ROZELLE: Yeah. And we actually have  
24 two.

25 MR. BOSWORTH: Okay. So the first question

1 I'm going to hit -- and I don't know if your was car  
2 broken down and you didn't hear me earlier. So I'm going  
3 to hit it again. So this is the last of the four that we  
4 initially planned that we intend to receive. Now we have  
5 committed to extending the scoping period. And then there  
6 have been requests for additional meetings.

7 Right now, I haven't committed to any  
8 additional meetings, but I guess I'd say my priority would  
9 be to get community perspective. So you talked about the  
10 San Tan area. You're not the first time I heard it. I  
11 heard it two other nights now. So we're seriously looking  
12 at that for an additional meeting.

13 MR. NELSON: So in terms of your questions  
14 two and three, the honest answer is I don't know. Really  
15 those questions relate to things Resolution Copper is  
16 doing right now. Whereas, we're planning an environmental  
17 impact statement for their proposed mining operations in  
18 the future and that's what we're preparing to study, but  
19 we will add those to our list and see if we can't get that  
20 information for you.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm just concerned,  
22 because there are two -- two dairies just west of where  
23 this site is supposed to be. And if the water's already  
24 going in, that's already affecting -- potentially  
25 affecting the milk and possibly future beef.

1 MR. NELSON: Right.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And a lot of people all  
3 over the east valley buy hay from the locations directly  
4 in close proximity to where that location is and that will  
5 -- that could grossly impact the health of our livestock.

6 MR. NELSON: Yeah. Those are great  
7 questions.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And that's not ten years  
9 from now, that's today.

10 MR. NELSON: Right. Those are great  
11 questions. Those are valid issues. But -- so we'll try  
12 and get those answers for you, but I don't have answers to  
13 those questions now.

14 MS. ROZELLE: So we got a few people who  
15 still are sitting up here. Maybe if you're finished, we  
16 can empty some seats so that you can come on up if you  
17 haven't had a chance to ask the questions yet. And we'll  
18 go ahead and start with you.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you. My name is  
20 Steve McClintock. I am the President of the Back Country  
21 Horsemen Association here in Arizona. My inquiry starts  
22 first on the Arizona Trail. Some people have spoken about  
23 that. We have responsibility for the trail north of 60,  
24 which is 18; and south of 60, which is 17B. We maintain  
25 those trails and have for, oh, 10, 15 years for horseback

1 riding and trail association.

2 All along this time, we have had problems in  
3 terms of identification of water sources. And we're in  
4 partnership with several hiking groups along the Arizona  
5 Trail, but the amount of water that's available is an  
6 issue for hikers and recreational people. And we, as  
7 horsemen, also have a problem with that. It's difficult  
8 enough as it is right now to find running water sources,  
9 particularly south of 60, in that area.

10 If there's a possibility that our horses  
11 could be inadvertently polluted by the sources, that would  
12 be a real hit on recreation. I'm trying to make this a  
13 question, and I'll get to that.

14 We have also been in conversation with OHE  
15 hikers and other people in that area. In terms of the  
16 trails and recreation we have, south of 60 would be the  
17 worst possible case for us, because that would impact more  
18 recreational trails than almost anything. Whereas, in the  
19 north, I hate to say this, but in terms of horse and  
20 recreation is probably the most neutral area, north of 60  
21 and west of the Arizona Trail. While I realize that may  
22 not be good for other people, these were people in the  
23 biking, hiking, and our horse community.

24 Now, lastly, the thing we have noticed is  
25 there would need to be some type of bridges over the top

1 of these open trails and that type of thing to carry the  
2 slurry and any of the pipelines. We have difficulty on  
3 the way over the train tracks where you already have the  
4 water pipeline that comes down through. And so I would  
5 offer that as something to think about.

6 MS. ROZELLE: Okay. Thank you.

7 All right. Good. Go ahead. Please.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Again, I'm thankful to be  
9 in the midst of company where we're allowed to ask  
10 questions. I'm also happy that the neighboring  
11 communities ask the questions that they do.

12 In the past meetings that I've attended,  
13 because the audience is different, I just wanted to repeat  
14 again that Oak Flat is not the only place our people  
15 harvest acorn nor is it the only place that our people  
16 celebrate the ceremonial grounds.

17 Last night I mentioned that it's unfortunate  
18 that people in our own community have abused their elders  
19 from our own community. I didn't attend the Oak Valley --  
20 Queen Valley meeting, but it was brought to my attention  
21 that an elder made a statement and it was interpreted that  
22 this lady claimed that her sunrise ceremony was held at  
23 Oak Flat.

24 Her name is Gladys Henton. And I have a  
25 copy of an article from the Apache Moccasin that was

1 printed February 10th in 2010 where this very lady that  
2 was interpreted to make claims that her sunrise ceremony  
3 was held in Oak Flat. In this article it states that her  
4 sunrise ceremony was held in Bylas, Arizona, at an area  
5 called the Bylas Men's Club Ceremonial Ground. So my  
6 concern there regarding this claim was -- my concern is  
7 why I made the statement last night that even our own  
8 community people, unfortunately, abuse elder people.

9           And my question is once information is  
10 admitted in regards to any cultural sacred or traditional  
11 claims being made, how do you determine or through what  
12 source is it determined that the information given is the  
13 truth or may have false information?

14           MR. BOSWORTH: Okay. So we're not  
15 necessarily -- obviously, we're not experts in what is  
16 culturally significant to each particular tribe. So we  
17 will work with the -- each individual tribe and through  
18 consultation as actually discussed in the law and also  
19 under section 106 consultation requirements. We will work  
20 with all the tribes.

21           We have worked with all tribes in Arizona  
22 and actually a little bit of Mexico also on this project.  
23 We don't necessarily get approached to try out the certain  
24 saying or challenge or say I want proof that this is  
25 significant, I want to see the number of sunrise

1 ceremonies that take place there. It's really more, in my  
2 mind, developing a relationship with the tribes around the  
3 specific areas that it would affect to see if there's any  
4 way to mitigate that. So I don't -- like the other night  
5 -- we don't quantify. It we don't say -- where Mark said  
6 that's it's not -- it's not a voting process. I don't  
7 look at -- I'm not going to go out and ask all the tribal  
8 members of any particular group how many believe this, how  
9 many believe this. If there's two people that believe  
10 that and it's important to them, I'm going to listen to  
11 those two and work with it.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's why it was very  
13 important for me to make the statement based on what  
14 percentage would be allowed to determine exactly what the  
15 outcome and the end decision would be. That's why I made  
16 the statement.

17 MR. BOSWORTH: I understand that.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can I hand this over?  
19 This is the article that was -- this article printed by  
20 Sandra Rattler at the time in Apache Moccasin.

21 MR. BOSWORTH: Thank you.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

23 MS. ROZELLE: Yes, ma'am.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Hello, again. What  
25 I'm wondering is exactly how do you -- are you guys going

1 to evaluate the issues at Oak Flat or is it just the  
2 tailing site because of land exchange?

3 MR. BOSWORTH: I'm sorry. This is a Mark  
4 question here. I'm going to jump in since I can't help  
5 myself. We are going to do both.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You're doing both?

7 MR. BOSWORTH: The tricky situation here is  
8 once we make a decision -- so we're going to analyze all  
9 of them. Once we make a decision and we transfer that  
10 land, we have very little control over what happens to it,  
11 because it becomes private at that point.

12 So we'll analyze it now, but once it  
13 becomes -- the Oak Flat area, if that becomes private  
14 after the decision is made, then our regulatory authority  
15 over that diminishes. The tailings will stay on us.  
16 We'll continue regulatory authority over the tailings.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So if you find things  
18 wrong with -- with their mining plan of operation on Oak  
19 Flat, there's nothing you can do about it. Right? Is  
20 that what you're saying?

21 MR. BOSWORTH: Mark.

22 MR. NELSON: We will not have authority to  
23 compel them to make them make changes there. We have  
24 certainly in the environmental impact statement identify  
25 and recommend them mitigations and work to negotiate with

1 the company to implement those. But we won't have the  
2 authority to compel them.

3 MR. TORRES: The state still retain some  
4 authorities over mining on private land.

5 MR. NELSON: Yeah. That's an important  
6 factor is that although the forest service will not have  
7 regulatory authority over Oak Flat once it is exchanged  
8 and becomes private, many other environmental laws will  
9 still apply. They'll still have to comply with the  
10 federal Clean Water Act. They'll still have to comply  
11 with the Arizona groundwater quality regulations.

12 So there's still a pretty substantial mining  
13 regulatory framework that applies to private lands, but  
14 the forest service will not have a regulatory role on that  
15 land once it is exchanged.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What about all the  
17 archeological sites at Oak Flat and including where the  
18 tailings are? And the people actually live out there,  
19 Buick Station Road, which I have a relative that lives out  
20 there. What about that? Are you guys involved with any  
21 of those evaluations?

22 MR. TORRES: So, yeah, throughout this  
23 process -- we'll work with the State Historic Preservation  
24 Office. Along with them, we will do surveys for all of  
25 our archeological sites. We'll do what we call mitigation

1 if those sites are going to be destroyed in some way. Or  
2 even if it gets transferred to private ownership, we  
3 still -- they do mitigation, data collection, that type of  
4 thing on all the archeological sites that are on federal  
5 that get turned over to private, along with -- let's say  
6 the tailings the facility produced the -- I've selected a  
7 fee alternative decision on what's out there on the  
8 proposed location, then we'll do our archeological work  
9 out there anyway and then the same kind of mitigation  
10 there.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So, like, where the  
12 petroglyphs are, you're going actually -- you can actually  
13 have them remove those big rocks? Is that what you're  
14 saying?

15 MR. TORRES: So for -- okay. So you're  
16 going to lose -- so you get to -- so you're talking  
17 archeology then you're talking historic then you go  
18 religious. And you can't get a religious significance.  
19 You know, you can't really document that.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah, I didn't say  
21 anything about that religious -- yeah. I didn't say  
22 anything about that today.

23 MR. TORRES: Okay. So as far as -- as far  
24 as what our arm in it is, we need to capture the  
25 information from archeological sites. And so if we can

1 dig it up, we'll dig it, they'll document it. They write  
2 the report on it. And that's the whole point with -- we  
3 call it mitigation. It's actually trying to capture the  
4 information, because we know it's going to be lost. And  
5 that's what we'll do throughout the process. As far as  
6 saving a petroglyph, no.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So I'm with the forest  
8 service. The -- I understand why you would ask why can't  
9 we just pick up the petroglyph and move it.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, I know it was stupid  
11 question.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: But in the nature of  
13 archaeology, mitigation means destruction, it means data  
14 recovery. So to the fullest extent of what we could do  
15 with a petroglyph would be documenting it, which we could  
16 do very well. But then after that it's going to be  
17 getting destroyed just like all the other --

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah. I know. And --  
19 and with -- to reiterate on the one lady talking about all  
20 the animals. Where are they going to go?

21 I mean, there's so many animals down there.  
22 There's blue crane. There's the churros. There's the  
23 ducks. There's all kinds of animals. You know, I've been  
24 hiking around there all my life. It's literally my  
25 backyard. I don't understand where they could even

1 possibly go, being that this is right in the middle of  
2 copper triangle, you know.

3 So what would you do about all of the  
4 animals? Is that up to you guys or Game & Fish or...

5 MR. TORRES: So there's --

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I know I'm asking tough  
7 questions.

8 MR. TORRES: No, because it is good stuff.  
9 There is different aspects of that too. So you have the  
10 Endangered Species Act. If there's an endangered species  
11 out there, that has to be key on making sure that we're  
12 not -- you know, any proposal's not going to further harm  
13 that species. Okay. And those who jeopardize a species,  
14 that's a big deal. Endangered Species Act is got to be  
15 key. As far as the rest of the species that aren't  
16 covered, they're not endangered, they're not threatened,  
17 Arizona Game & Fish will have a definite role throughout  
18 this process in mitigation for those kinds of species.  
19 And I use the mitigation because how -- what kind of  
20 affect is going to be on the species and those kinds of  
21 things. Arizona Game & Fish manages critters, manages  
22 their water and habitat. So one of the things I mentioned  
23 earlier is they kind of -- we had sessions with them  
24 already about being a cooperating agency, which is a  
25 formal process. The committee role actually played a

1 formal role in the developing of the EIS. And I'm pretty  
2 confident they will end up being a cooperating agency on  
3 this project.

4 MS. ROZELLE: One more question or are you  
5 done?

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No. I think I'm done.

7 MS. ROZELLE: Thank you.

8 Roy.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Good evening again, guys.  
10 Roy Chavez; lifelong resident of Superior, former  
11 three-term mayor, underground miner at the Magma Superior  
12 mine, and chairperson for Concerned Citizens and Retired  
13 Miners Coalition. I've been on this for a personal and  
14 professional level for 17 years now. And I just wanted to  
15 share.

16 I heard a comment about the exchange land.  
17 And, basically, it's 3,000 plus minus acres at Oak Flat,  
18 in the Oak Flat area, including the 700 acres of the  
19 campgrounds. And what the United States gets is about  
20 5,000 acres that's spread around the state.

21 So not good. I consider the majority of it  
22 bad, because 2100 of those acres is identified as the San  
23 Pedro repairing area, but it's adjacent to the BHB  
24 holdings and properties of the old San Manuel mining  
25 operation. So that's something for people to consider.

1 Half of that land is basically adjacent to the mine -- the  
2 old San Manuel mine.

3           Also, I just wanted to mention today --  
4 because at the last, I've been at every meeting and I've  
5 mentioned the issue where the impact area extended now to  
6 the San Tan, Copper Basin. This is the actual application  
7 by Rio Tinto to Pinal County. Let's not forget, the land  
8 was already purchased. It's already privatized. The land  
9 is also located in the middle of the state trust area.  
10 And it's actually part -- or was part as a residential  
11 zoned area, part of the Superstition Vistas project. I  
12 think somebody needs to address state lands and the  
13 Superstition Vistas Morrison Institute at ASU.

14           But this has already been presented to Pinal  
15 County planning and zoning. These were conducted in  
16 September and October.

17           Was anybody aware?

18           The final meeting with forest supervisors  
19 has yet to be held. They're supposed to contact me  
20 tomorrow and advise me where that's at. I know there's a  
21 holding. But I have the application, if you want to see  
22 it in more detail what we've identified on the small map  
23 over here, that area west of -- south -- west southwest of  
24 Florence Junction, just east of the Copper Basin, San Tan  
25 area.

1           My last thing is that in reference to the  
2 sacredness, as I've said at every meeting, the land is  
3 sacred to all of us. The land, the water, the air. It  
4 doesn't matter how much money you have in your back  
5 pocket. Without those three natural resources, you have  
6 no life.

7           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes. Come on back. It's  
8 sort of like being in Jeopardy, because I'm putting  
9 comments in questions forms. Well, I do my best.

10          MS. THOMAS: You can just comment. You  
11 don't --

12          AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, I wasn't sure  
13 because --

14          MS. ROZELLE: Well, what we're trying to do  
15 is comments are three minutes. If you got a question, you  
16 know, then you got to answer, and that's not being timed.  
17 So I'm trying to time the comments and not the questions.

18                 So if you have a comment, go ahead.

19          AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. I have so much to  
20 say to you. So you were talking about how it's very hard  
21 to predict what the outcomes of this whole -- and that you  
22 would like our comments to be solution oriented. The only  
23 solution I can see is don't let it happen. I think the  
24 past is the best predictor of the future, as they say.  
25 And mining industry doesn't have a great track record.

1 And I don't think you can enter into business with them in  
2 good faith knowing that they have an assessed million  
3 dollars of fines by the federal government, which they  
4 don't pay, because the EPAs budget is so strapped that  
5 they don't have the manpower or the woman power to collect  
6 on the fees.

7 And Freeport, they got assessed \$122,000  
8 fine. This is a multibillion dollar corporation, but, oh,  
9 they didn't make a profit last year. And they want to  
10 challenge paying \$100,000 fine.

11 So I just would like to know -- there's  
12 other mines going on your Tonto land -- on our Tonto land,  
13 what's your relationship been like with the mines? Do you  
14 have any interactions with them? Have they -- has their  
15 behaviors been an issue?

16 I mean, that's a part of the -- have you  
17 done an EIS with them and what was the process like? I  
18 mean, because, like you say, the past is a predictor of  
19 the future. So have you guys had to assess them fines or  
20 are you saying you have no jurisdiction over the water,  
21 although a lot of people have a lot of water concerns.

22 So what kind of terms are you on with the  
23 current mines? Do you enjoy working with them?

24 MR. BOSWORTH: And Mark went into this a  
25 little bit. But we didn't bring our forest minerals

1 geologist here and he's kind of busy with everything else,  
2 besides Resolution and markets and things. But it's in  
3 respect, just like anything else. Just like anybody else  
4 who has a use on the National Forest, whether it's grazing  
5 or it's recreation. We have lots of special use permits  
6 we have out there. Some of them are very, very  
7 responsible. And they're good to work with. And they're  
8 environmentally conscience and do a good job. And some of  
9 them are all about getting the money out as quick as  
10 possible and then, you know, taking off. And so it's --  
11 that's why we have the staff we have.

12 I mean, right now, including our fire  
13 organization and supervisors we have 85 people. And a lot  
14 of people are there to make sure that these uses are  
15 conformed to what public interest is.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I think you guys are going  
17 to need additional employees to help. I mean, this is a  
18 big deal.

19 MR. TORRES: Yeah. Let me add something to  
20 that. We do have mineral administrators on our staff and  
21 it's their job to administer some of the mining operations  
22 on the forest. We have some large operations right now.

23 One is the Carlota copper mine and the other  
24 the Pinto Valley mine, just, what, north of the proposed  
25 Resolution project. And environmental analysis were done

1 for those back when they were prudent. Most recently the  
2 Carlota is a part of EIS process and it was very  
3 contentious, like this one is likely to get. I think that  
4 decision went all the way to the supreme court. And it's  
5 our job to make sure that they comply with the mitigation  
6 measures and those environmental things that are in EIS  
7 and were transferred into their plan permit, which they --  
8 each one of them. So they operate under a permit that has  
9 all their requirements for operation. And for the most  
10 part, yeah, they comply with what's required.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So if I understand, one  
12 percent of the land in Tonto you derive your revenue from  
13 permits and fees; is that correct? I thought I read that  
14 on your website that one percent of the land in Tonto is  
15 where you get most of your revenue to maintain some of the  
16 usage areas that you do. Is that right? Because it said  
17 on there you guys have to repair pipes and porta potties  
18 and all that stuff.

19 MS. HOFFMAN: So I think what you saw on the  
20 website was the discussion about our fees. Was that what  
21 it was?

22 So that one percent is for just our  
23 developer areas. So that funding directly goes back into  
24 our develop sites, our boat launches, our campgrounds, our  
25 digging sites, our picnic areas. So those fees, that's

1 basically saying that we charge fees at about  
2 approximately one percent of the use of the forest, the  
3 rest of the 98 percent of the forest is free. So that's  
4 what that was talking about.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And Oak Flat was part of  
6 that free forest?

7 MS. HOFFMAN: Yes.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So it's not a special use  
9 site?

10 MS. HOFFMAN: So the campground at Oak Flat  
11 is actually a free use site. So it's not included in our  
12 fee program. So the funding, the majority of that, comes  
13 from our allocated dollars.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, a representative of  
15 Apache she put out a statement saying what a great thing  
16 that it is for the state of Arizona and that Rio Tinto  
17 said that the tribe will have access to Oak Flat up until  
18 the point that it is deemed too dangerous.

19 Is there any mining in that area that the  
20 public has access, I mean, that's considered safe?

21 And, you know, if that's private land, I  
22 don't think that I can go drive on private property, the  
23 mining property, and say, well, this is sacred to me. All  
24 land is. So when are they going to cut off the tribe's  
25 access? Is it already in their possession? It's already

1 private land?

2 MR. NELSON: No. Oak Flat is still forest  
3 service land. And Oak Flat will remain forest service  
4 land until 60 days after the final EIS is completed. And  
5 at that point it will be private land. And the National  
6 Defense Authorization Act itself includes a section that  
7 says Resolution Copper will allow access to the campground  
8 for as long as it is safe, which relates to how fast they  
9 develop the mine.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right. When does it  
11 become unsafe?

12 MR. NELSON: How this subsidence proceeds.  
13 But that will be private land, so it will be up to  
14 Resolution Copper to make that determination. And we  
15 don't know when that will be.

16 MS. ROZELLE: I'm going to give one last  
17 question.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah. I really appreciate  
19 it. I just was looking at the designation of the Apache  
20 cliffs that has a special designation. So they won't be  
21 allowed on there. And I was just wondering why Oak Flat  
22 couldn't be a special designation? I mean, obviously it  
23 has an extreme value. You probably heard a lot of Oak  
24 Flat comments. So why can't that have that special  
25 designation too?

1 MR. NELSON: Well, that's something that's  
2 already decided by the National Defense Authorization Act.  
3 So that's not an issue that the forest service really has  
4 any ability to affect.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah. But we do. We the  
6 people. And, you know, we're really hoping that this gets  
7 appealed and then this will go away for you guys until the  
8 next time. I mean, they've been introducing this, what,  
9 12 different times for umpteen years. And once you think  
10 the problem has been dealt with, then another greedy  
11 company raises its head.

12 So I have a lot of hope for the future. And  
13 I really want to thank you gentlemen, because I understand  
14 it's a lot of hard work. My brother works in the forestry  
15 service in Minnesota. I'm not opposed to mining. I come  
16 from a long history of coal miners. My great uncle lost  
17 his life in the Centralia mine explosion in 1947. So I'm  
18 not opposed to mining, but none of my ancestors tried to  
19 build a coal mine on sacred Native American land. So I  
20 think you need to be thoughtful of that, and I'm sure you  
21 are. Okay. Thank you so much.

22 MR. NELSON: Thank you very much for coming  
23 in.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, I heard some people  
25 talk about archaeological sites. And I've hiked in that

1 area and found -- like, there are rock walls. I don't  
2 know if they're for corrals or fences. They're like rock  
3 fences. Do you know if those will be looked at in the  
4 study?

5 MR. BOSWORTH: Yeah. I mean, everything --  
6 any archaeological site will be surveyed and it will be  
7 valuated. It'll be -- you know, like I said, we'll  
8 analyze them, we'll look at them, we'll record them. All  
9 that.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My other comment is I just  
11 want to emphasize how important water is to life, really,  
12 on earth and throughout the universe -- earth, probably,  
13 but especially in Arizona where it's a valuable commodity.

14 Devil's Canyon, I haven't heard anybody else  
15 talk about it. I don't think, we understand how beautiful  
16 it is down there. I just want to show you two or three  
17 other pictures to emphasize that and make sure that that  
18 is taken into account in the environmental study.

19 MR. TORRES: Would you mind sharing those  
20 photos with us electronically?

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Not at all.

22 MR. TORRES: When we break up here, we can  
23 give you an e-mail or something. If you could send those  
24 to us, that would be great to have.

25 MS. ROZELLE: Thank you.

1 All right. Yes, ma'am.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. This is more on  
3 valuation. When you consider the valuation, it's been  
4 said from the very beginning that the mine is worth  
5 \$93 billion. And I know that the parcels that are being  
6 traded for are nowhere near \$93 billion. I don't think  
7 that they're close to even one billion dollars. So do you  
8 take that into consideration?

9 And the 93 billion, I'm going to assume is  
10 what Resolution Copper has said is in copper and the  
11 molybdenum, but there's also gold and silver down there  
12 that they never talk about, and a lot of the gold miners  
13 know about it. And so is that too going to be brought  
14 into the valuation?

15 And I also challenge the jobs figures. And  
16 I'd like to know if you're going to be going by the jobs  
17 figures that Resolution gives you? Because a second study  
18 was done by the Native American community and I don't know  
19 what company -- I believe it was like the Power &  
20 Associates or someone. And their jobs were 400 jobs.

21 We know the mine is going to be automated.  
22 So it's going to be done robotically. So you're going to  
23 need not people from Superior or the reservation. It's  
24 going to take people with an education. So -- and the  
25 jobs, I challenge that.

1                   So whose word will you be taking on the jobs  
2 thing? Will you be using -- will you be conducting your  
3 own, a separate from the company that did this great PR  
4 for Resolution or will you take the tribes' word for it?  
5 How is that going to be done?

6                   MS. ROZELLE: Let's take some of these  
7 questions.

8                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

9                   MS. ROZELLE: So this last one was about the  
10 economic and the job's analysis. How's that going to be  
11 done and to what extent do you use the Resolution Copper  
12 numbers?

13                   MR. NELSON: So to a certain extent they're  
14 going to have to use information that Resolution provides,  
15 because they're the experts on how they propose to operate  
16 their mine. But to the fullest extent possible, we intend  
17 to do an independent and objective analysis in the entire  
18 EIS, including in the socioeconomic assessment. And so  
19 our socioeconomics specialists are going to have to take a  
20 very close look at what Resolution provides, to the extent  
21 you can validate that information, you know, check it, see  
22 if it sounds reasonable, and ultimately prepare his or her  
23 own socioeconomic assessment that we'll use in the end.

24                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: So will you be considering  
25 what the tribe found? Will they be submitting or will you

1 be asking them to submit their figures, their job figures?

2 MR. NELSON: I think it makes sense that we  
3 would ask for that data. Generally, when a resource  
4 specialists, like a socioeconomist, tackles one of those  
5 reports, it's necessary to pull in all the references that  
6 they can find. So it's great to know that the tribe has  
7 that information and we will request that form so that we  
8 can add that to our references.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And on the evaluation --

10 MS. ROZELLE: Just one second. Did you want  
11 to add something, Tom?

12 MR. TORRES: So I wanted to turn that land  
13 appraisal question, number 35, over to Rebecca, our land's  
14 person.

15 MS. HOFFMAN: So your question was if we --  
16 how we would take the land valuation for the other land?

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

18 MS. HOFFMAN: So our appraisal is done -- so  
19 we have a -- it's not done by our teams. We have a  
20 regional appraiser and a Washington officer appraiser in  
21 the forest service and they work with independent upgrade  
22 contract appraisers, because the appraisal process is  
23 pretty complex, especially with a land exchange like this.  
24 So they use two separate practices and handbooks. So one  
25 is the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal

1 Practice and one is the Uniform Appraisal Standards for  
2 Federal Land Acquisitions. So they will look at the land  
3 that we are giving up, the public lands and the private  
4 lands and analyze all the values of it, you know, from  
5 natural to the economic side of it.

6 The purposes of the appraisal is to ensure,  
7 that we -- the -- because we are losing public lands, to  
8 pay the public back the greatest amount for the lands. So  
9 if the values aren't the same -- so if the value of the  
10 public land is much higher than the value of the private,  
11 they either have to find more land to -- to exchange with  
12 us within the state of Arizona or they have to pay us the  
13 difference. And that payment goes into an account where  
14 we can purchase more property.

15 MS. ROZELLE: Okay. You can have one last  
16 question.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, I'm trying to  
18 formulate a question here. So when it's evaluated for how  
19 much it's worth, does that include the price of the  
20 minerals?

21 MS. HOFFMAN: So they take all the resources  
22 into account, the timber, the minerals. And so it's a  
23 complex process. I'm not an appraiser, so I don't want to  
24 give you the appraisal, but they will take it all into  
25 account.

1                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: And is the jobs part of  
2 that too? I mean, are --

3                   MS. HOFFMAN: No. It's just the value of  
4 the land. Just the land.

5                   MR. BOSWORTH: So the appraisal process  
6 depends on our regional office, by an appraiser. And so  
7 they'll be selecting their appraiser. So that process  
8 that Rebecca just outlined will be overseen by our  
9 regional appraiser in the regional office in Albuquerque.  
10 So we'll have plenty of time for future meetings before  
11 this ever happens. But once an appraiser is selected,  
12 that will be announced at some point. I'm not saying it  
13 hasn't happened yet.

14                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. So whenever you do  
15 that, would you be going by core samples? Because we  
16 know -- those of us in Superior that have worked in the  
17 mines, we know that there's gold and silver there, not  
18 just the copper and moly.

19                   Will someone be looking at core samples, do  
20 you think, to be able to find out exactly what minerals  
21 are down there so that we have an accurate valuation of  
22 the land and the taxpayer aren't shorted?

23                   MR. BOSWORTH: So I don't know. I'm not  
24 going to be able to answer that question right now. It's  
25 pretty complicated, because you got a couple things going

1 on. You got part of the ore body is actually --  
2 Resolution Copper already has a right to mine it right  
3 now. Part of the ore body in a drawn area that would  
4 be -- the decision was made on this to where it would be  
5 transferred to private ownership, that drawn area would be  
6 removed. And they'd have access to that part of the ore  
7 body. So that adds a complexity to it that I can't really  
8 answer the question about how the mineral valuation would  
9 affect the appraisal value of the project. We don't have  
10 the expertise here right now.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thanks. Just one  
12 statement. I'll make it brief.

13 Okay. The only way that this property can  
14 be saved is through Congress. And so I urge everyone to  
15 sign onto the Save Oak Flat Act. It's H.R. 2811 and S.  
16 2242 in the Senate. Call your Capitol Hill switchboard,  
17 which is (202) 225-3121, and put pressure on  
18 representatives or Senators so that we can stop this land  
19 swap. Thank you.

20 MS. ROZELLE: Go ahead.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hello. My name is Taylor,  
22 and I'm the vice chairman of the San Carlos Apache Tribe.  
23 I was just here. I wasn't going to say anything. I was  
24 just here to listen. But it's really good, you know,  
25 being a leader of an Apache Tribe to hear everybody be

1 very concerned about the land and how safe we're going to  
2 be later on. And it's just unfortunate that you're stuck  
3 with a job where you're going to have to do whatever you  
4 can to comply with this law that was passed and sent  
5 through.

6           You know, I just wanted to say on the  
7 cultural side that I was raised by my elders. My  
8 grandmother raised me, my grandfather, my great  
9 grandmother, and then my grandmother's sisters are all  
10 older than me. So in our way, in the Apache way, our  
11 history is not written when it's carried down. Only few  
12 carry on this tradition.

13           And, you know, when this Oak Flat thing came  
14 out, it was just really amazing to see how many people are  
15 not very knowledgeable in our history and how we need to  
16 promote our education on our culture. Oak Flat is a  
17 sacred place. The only defense I heard against -- I mean,  
18 the only objection I heard against Oak Flat being a sacred  
19 place is people saying we didn't know. You know, my  
20 elders never told me. My elders never mentioned that  
21 place as a sacred place.

22           Well, just because a person doesn't know  
23 that this place is sacred, doesn't mean that it isn't  
24 sacred. This place has high cultural significance to the  
25 Apache people. It's a very sacred place.

1           The Superstition Mountain is one of our  
2 churches. You know, our ancestors or -- my ancestors have  
3 said, that carry down through the generations, is that Oak  
4 Flat is a place where our medicine men and women would  
5 stop and pray and do a purification ceremony, a blessing  
6 ceremony, before they went and traveled to the  
7 Superstition Mountains. And they carried on their  
8 practices 30 years. They never had to advertise until  
9 this land exchange came up.

10           That's why I think you heard Karen Jones in  
11 one of the meetings say, well, I didn't hear about this  
12 place being a sacred place until 2012 or something like  
13 that. Well, that's because we had come out. We had to  
14 come out and say, hey, this place is sacred to us. Don't  
15 turn it into a two-mile crater. We want to keep it there.  
16 It's a way for us to communicate with our God.

17           So we ask on behalf of the Apache people,  
18 I'm going to ask you guys, to be really sensitive to how  
19 we hold this place to our hearts, to our prayers, what it  
20 means to us. And how we can continue on now, you know,  
21 with our children in the future. It's going to hurt the  
22 people, the health of the people.

23           Mining is just generally bad. And you just  
24 got to do whatever you can to mitigate the bad things  
25 about mining, the way I understand it. And I don't oppose

1 mining. I just oppose a sacred site being turned into a  
2 2-mile crater. And then everyone having to suffer with  
3 500 feet high tailings and breathing in all that stuff and  
4 hurting the future of our people.

5 So thank you for having me here. That's  
6 just -- thank you for allowing me to speak.

7 MS. ROZELLE: Thank you.

8 MR. TORRES: Thank you for being here. I  
9 appreciate it.

10 MS. ROZELLE: Roger.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Roger Frederick. I'm  
12 director of the Arizona Mining Reform Coalition. All I  
13 wanted to do this evening -- I've talked to -- of course,  
14 you guys look forward to our voluminous comments at the  
15 end of the comment period of scoping. But last Saturday  
16 the climbers had a competition at Oak Flat, the third  
17 annual. Years ago, of course, they had the Boulder Blast.  
18 That was ended when the promoters were kind of scared off  
19 by the land exchange happening. But now it's been going  
20 on again for three years and it's been building.

21 And to see people out there using that area,  
22 when I go out to check my wildlife cameras, it's just --  
23 to see the hikers on camera, the climbers on camera, and  
24 see how everybody loves that place and using it is just  
25 amazing. And to see the interactions with the young

1 people and some of the old farts too climbing and enjoying  
2 that thing is just really amazing. And I hope that that  
3 festival will go on for another 50, 60, 100 years at that  
4 place when this thing is stopped.

5 But I wanted to bring to your attention some  
6 of the folks handwrote -- took that time to sit down while  
7 they were waiting for the awards to be tallied up and all  
8 that. They wrote some comments, basically hand wrote  
9 about this. And I just wanted to give these to you guys  
10 just to -- just as part of the people who really take the  
11 time to make the effort to express their love for this  
12 place.

13 MR. NELSON: Thanks, Roger.

14 MS. ROZELLE: All right, Roger. Thank you.  
15 All right.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can we get copies of all  
17 these questions?

18 MS. ROZELLE: Well, we're going to have  
19 copies of the presentation on the web. We talked about  
20 having copies of the summary on all the things that were  
21 said on the web, which will include the questions. So  
22 that's for all the meetings, so if you want to read them.

23 And then what we're going to do with these  
24 is take down -- there's already a lot of Q and A on the  
25 website -- and see which ones we need to add and put on

1 the website eventually too. So it's all part of the  
2 process. So, eventually.

3 Yes, sir.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you. Quick  
5 question. Who's paying for the EIS? Is it Resolution or  
6 is it taxpayers?

7 MR. NELSON: The National Defense  
8 Authorization Act requires Resolution to pay for all the  
9 costs of the environmental land exchange.

10 MS. ROZELLE: You got one more?

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Just one quick one.

12 MS. ROZELLE: All right. Sure.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: One of the things I'd like  
14 is just have you take in the fact that EPA studies that  
15 are always done and all the regulations that are out  
16 there. We got towns that water pollution are dangerously  
17 high in carcinogenics among other things. They're all  
18 held to factor.

19 Just one of the things to take into  
20 consideration is the oops average. You know, how many  
21 times do companies that are responsible for filtering the  
22 water and responsible for keeping the groundwater clean  
23 and all those things. What's the average times where they  
24 can make a mistake -- whether they pay the fines or not,  
25 how many average is out there, once a year, ten times a

1 year? That's just one quick comment I want to throw out.

2 MS. ROZELLE: Okay. Thank you. All right.

3 So thank you for coming. If you want to  
4 make a formal comment to the court reporter in the back,  
5 talk to any of the folks who are involved, who you met  
6 tonight, please do.

7 And, Neil, do you want to end us off with a  
8 final set of words?

9 MR. BOSWORTH: No. Just thank you to  
10 everybody for coming. I know it's a long evening and I  
11 know a lot are working and go here after work. But it's  
12 very important for us to hear this. And this is the  
13 fourth meeting, and every night we hear something new.  
14 And so it really is valuable. And it's going to be a long  
15 haul. And I hope you stay as engaged as you possibly can  
16 throughout this.

17 And, you know, in the future, if you ever  
18 want to get a hold of me or my staff, look us up, we're on  
19 the internet, give me a call, give Mark a call, Tom a  
20 call, and we'd be willing to sit down and talk to you. So  
21 thank you again.

22 MS. ROZELLE: Thank you.

23

24

25