



# Snapshot

## Resolution Copper Project – Tailings Alternatives

### #5: Peg Leg

#### **SUMMARY**

This alternative allows analysts to compare a tailings site more isolated from existing communities while remaining adjacent to areas of active mining on the landscape.

Alternative 5 also allows for a comparison of the impacts of slurry tailings if placed in a flatter, alluvial setting instead of an upland wash or canyon.

Tailings would be delivered to the Peg Leg location in two separate streams via a dual pipeline from the West Plant Site. One pipeline would carry non-potentially acid generating (NPAG) tailings (also known as scavenger tailings). The adjacent pipeline would carry potentially acid generating (PAG) tailings (also known as pyrite tailings).

Two separate storage facilities for NPAG and PAG tailings would exist throughout the life of the mine.

The PAG facility would consist of 4 separate cells. This would reduce the pond size required for operations and allow for progressive reclamation. Only one cell would be operational at a time. A downstream dam consisting of earthfill and cycloned sand is proposed for the PAG cells.

NPAG tailings would be located primarily on an alluvial soil foundation to the west and slightly downslope from

the PAG site. A centerline dam, also consisting of earthfill and cycloned sand, is proposed for NPAG tailings.

Officials project higher seepage because of the alluvial foundation. Seepage containment measures would include low-permeability layers at the PAG facility and low-permeability barriers (liners or fine-grained tailings) for the NPAG tailings. A downstream well field would capture seepage and return it to the TSF.

#### **Location**

Bureau of Land Management and Arizona State Land Department property; 18 miles south of Superior, 15 miles east of Florence, and 6 miles west of State Route 177

#### **Numbers**

5,889 acres – disturbance footprint at tailings storage

10,781 acres - total footprint within fenceline for auxiliary facilities and tailings storage

310 feet – height of NPAG tailings

200 feet – height of PAG tailings

\*1,722 acres – additional disturbance for western pipeline corridor to convey tailings

\*1,353 acres -- additional disturbance for eastern pipeline corridor to convey tailings

*\*{Two pipeline routes currently undergoing analysis; one route would be built if this alternative is chosen }*

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#### **ALTERNATIVES OVERVIEW**

The National Environmental Policy Act requires the Forest Service to investigate alternatives to the various aspects of the proposed action as part of the Environmental Impact Statement process for the Resolution Copper Project and Land Exchange.

Alternatives are a mix of reasonable strategies that meet the purpose of and need for the proposed action, while resolving or addressing key issues identified during scoping.

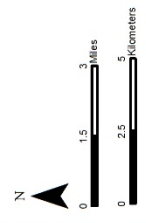
In addition to the No Action Alternative (sequentially known as Alternative #1), the Forest Service is considering five reasonable “action” alternatives. A Draft EIS document will include an alternatives chapter that expands on each reasonable alternative. The Forest Service is projecting a June 2019 release of the Draft EIS.

Resolution Copper Project and Land Exchange info is available online at: <http://www.resolutionmineeis.us/>.

**RESOLUTION COPPER  
PROJECT AND  
LAND EXCHANGE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
STATEMENT**

**Legend**

- Cities
- Arizona Trail
- Project Area
- Tailings Storage Facility
- Land Ownership**
- Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Department of Defense
- Private/Other
- State



Date: 8/20/2018

