

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service
Coronado National Forest
300 West Congress
Tucson, AZ 85701
www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado



For Immediate Release

Contact: Heidi Schewel (520) 237-4860

Coronado National Forest Enhances Public Participation Process for Rosemont Copper Project

TUCSON, AZ, (April 2, 2008) – Coronado National Forest Supervisor, Jeanine Derby, enhanced opportunities for public participation in the environmental impact statement process for the proposed Rosemont Copper Project, including:

- Increasing the current 60 day comment period to 120 days (which will end July 14th)
- Adding three additional public open house meetings
- Adding three public hearings

Details of the additional open houses and hearings will be announced as soon as possible. Additional open houses are planned for Sahuarita and the Sonoita areas. Hearings are planned for central Tucson, the Green Valley/Sahuarita area, and the Sonoita/Patagonia area.

An open house meeting in Vail, Arizona is already scheduled for this Saturday, April 5, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium at Cienega High School, 12775 E. Mary Ann Cleveland Way. The open house format is designed to allow attendees to view informational displays, ask specialists about the Rosemont Copper Project and the environmental impact statement (EIS) process, and submit written comments onsite. Attendees may arrive at any time during the open house.

Prior to attending meetings or making comments, citizens are urged to read the Notice of Intent (NOI) and the proposed Mine Plan of Operations available online at www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado/rosemont. Those without Internet access may request a hard copy of the NOI by calling (520) 388-8300. Copies of the NOI will also be available at all public meetings.

“Those who cannot attend public meetings can still provide us with comments by mail, email, or FAX,” said Forest Supervisor, Jeanine Derby. “Comments submitted in these ways are given equal consideration to comments made at public meetings.”

Agencies or individuals can submit written comments as follows:

- Mail comments to Team Leader, Rosemont Copper Project, Coronado National Forest, 300 W. Congress St., Tucson, Arizona 85701
- FAX comments to (520) 388-8305, ATTN: Rosemont Team Leader
- Email to comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us

Comments should be directly related to issues associated with the *proposed action* described in the NOI, rather than general advocacy for or opposition to the project. Comments on the scope of the impacts analysis are welcome during the environmental impact statement process until the draft EIS is issued for public comment (scheduled for March, 2009). However, comments will be most useful if received during the public scoping period, which ends July 14, 2008.

For questions about the public meetings or the comment period, the public can call (520) 388-8300.

Questions about the EIS process should be directed to Ms. Andrea Campbell, Forest NEPA Coordinator, at 300 W. Congress St., Tucson, AZ 85701, or telephone (520) 388-8300.

Additional information about the proposed Rosemont Copper Project is available online at www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado/rosemont.

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