



Morris Farr
Save the Scenic Santa Ritas

**UPDATE ON THE
 PROPOSED ROSEMONT MINE**

Presentation at the University of Arizona
 February 16, 2011

www.scenicsantaritas.org

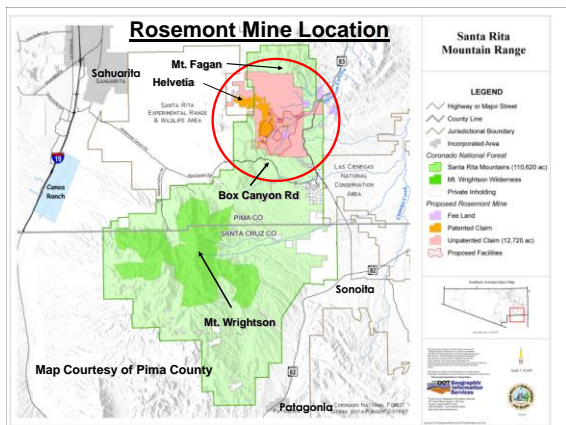
About Save the Scenic Santa Ritas

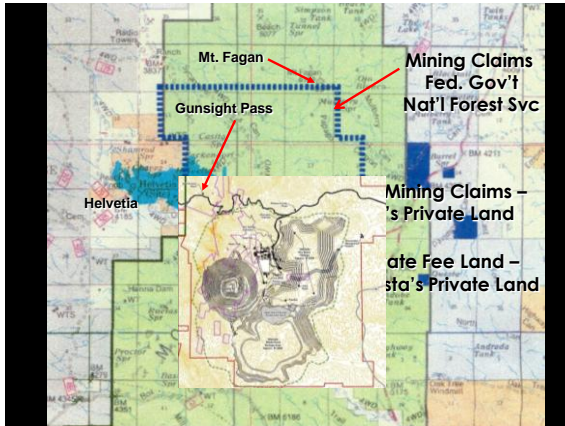
A volunteer-based non-profit organization based in
 Tucson, Arizona

Formed in 1996 to protect the Scenic, Aesthetic,
 Recreational and Wildlife Values of the Santa Ritas
 from degradation due to mining activities...
 now including the Patagonia Mountains, Canelo Hills,
 and San Rafael Valley

Volunteer Board of Directors and Advisory Board from
 many different communities in Southern Arizona
 with diverse backgrounds and fields of expertise

One Paid half-time Coordinator, Lisa Froelich

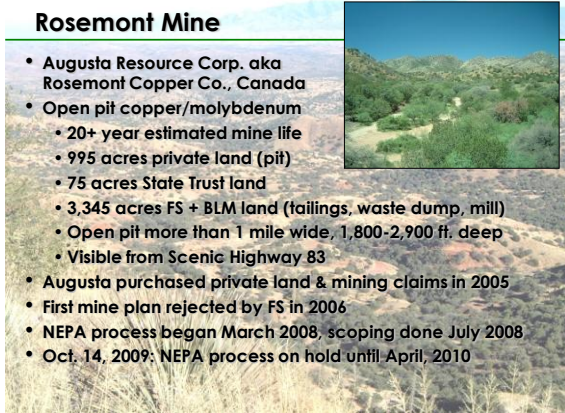




Rosemont Mine



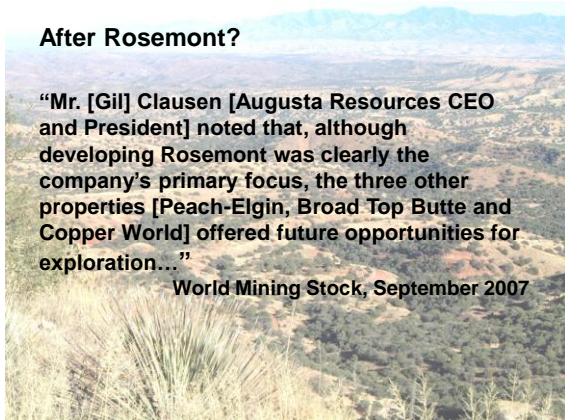
- Augusta Resource Corp. aka Rosemont Copper Co., Canada
- Open pit copper/molybdenum
 - 20+ year estimated mine life
 - 995 acres private land (pit)
 - 75 acres State Trust land
 - 3,345 acres FS + BLM land (tailings, waste dump, mill)
 - Open pit more than 1 mile wide, 1,800-2,900 ft. deep
 - Visible from Scenic Highway 83
- Augusta purchased private land & mining claims in 2005
- First mine plan rejected by FS in 2006
- NEPA process began March 2008, scoping done July 2008
- Oct. 14, 2009: NEPA process on hold until April, 2010

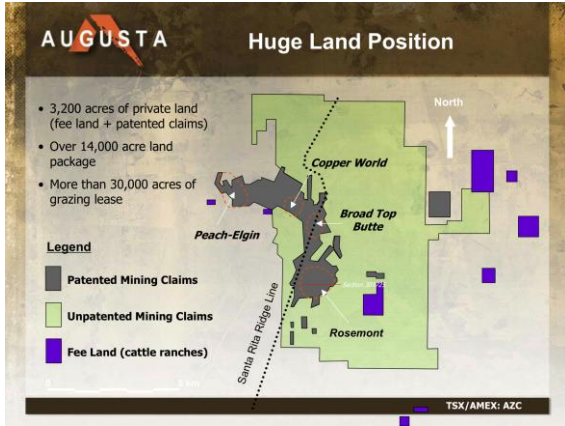


After Rosemont?

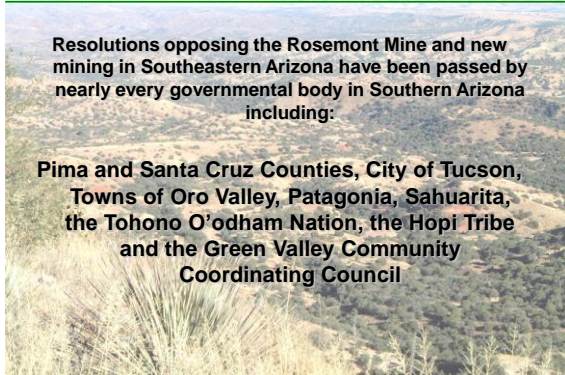
“Mr. [Gil] Clausen [Augusta Resources CEO and President] noted that, although developing Rosemont was clearly the company’s primary focus, the three other properties [Peach-Elgin, Broad Top Butte and Copper World] offered future opportunities for exploration...”

World Mining Stock, September 2007





Local Opposition - Resolutions



Current and Former Elected Officials In Opposition



SSSR Endorsements

Arizona Borderland Democrats - Arizona Herpetological Association - Arizona Native Plant Society-Conservation Committee - Camel Parts - Canelo Bistro - Casita Frontera - Center for Biological Diversity - Center for Environmental Ethics - Cienega Watershed Partnership - Circle Z Ranch - Citizens Water Action Coalition - Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection - Creative Spirit Artists - Cross Creek Cottages - Darrell's Designs - Defenders of Wildlife - Democrat Club of Santa Rita Area - The Duquesne House Bed and Breakfast - Elvia's Beauty Salon - Empire Fagan Coalition - The Enchanted Garden - Farmers Investment Company - Friends of Madera Canyon/Defenders of Madera Canyon - Friends of the Jaguar - Friends of the Santa Cruz River - Friends of Scenic Highway 82 - Gathering Grounds - Global Arts Gallery - Greenhouse Graphic Design, LLC - Green Party of Pima County - Groundwater Awareness League - Jarrnac Observatory - Kent A. Solberg - La Frontera Realty - La Hacienda de Sonoita - La Palomita de Patagonia - Loren Black - Long Realty Sonoita/Patagonia - Maricopa Audubon - Mariposa Books & More - Mesquite Grove Gallery - Metamorphosis Art Gallery - Mountain Empire Action Alliance (Sonoita) - Northern Jaguar Project - Painted House Studio - Pantano Christian Church Motorcycle Group - Patagonia Market - Patagonia Area Business Association - Perimeter Bicycling Association of America - Republicans for Environmental Protection - Saguaro Eastside Democrats - Santa Rita Abbey - Santa Rita Foothills Community Association - Save the Santa Cruz Aquifer - Sierra Club Grand Canyon Chapter - Sierra Club Rincon Group - Singing Valley North Home Owners Association - Sky Island Alliance - Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists - Southern AZ Hang Gliding Association - Spirit Tree Inn Bed and Breakfast - Studio Gallery and Lodging - Summit Realty, Inc. - Tanque Verde Valley Association - Tucson Arts Brigade - Tucson Audubon - Tucson Orienteering Club - Wilderness Society - Zopilote Press

SSSR Endorsement Highlights

Businesses/Community Groups

Canelo Bistro - Circle Z Ranch - Cross Creek Cottages - The Duquesne House Bed and Breakfast - Farmers Investment Company - Gathering Grounds - **La Frontera Realty** - La Hacienda de Sonoita - **Long Realty Sonoita/Patagonia** - Mariposa Books & More - Pantano Christian Church Motorcycle Group - Patagonia Market - Patagonia Area Business Association - Santa Rita Abbey - Santa Rita Foothills Community Association - Singing Valley North Home Owners Association - Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists - Southern AZ Hang Gliding Association - **Summit Realty, Inc.** - Tanque Verde Valley Association

Non Profit Groups

Center for Biological Diversity - Cienega Watershed - Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection Partnership - Defenders of Wildlife - Empire Fagan Coalition - Friends of Madera Canyon/Defenders of Madera Canyon - Mountain Empire Action Alliance (Sonoita) - Northern Jaguar Project - Perimeter Bicycling Association of America - Sierra Club Grand Canyon Chapter - Sierra Club Rincon Group - Sky Island Alliance - Tucson Audubon

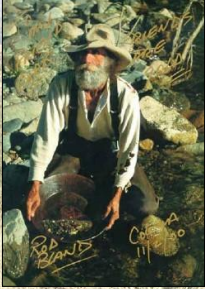
Politically Affiliated Groups

Arizona Borderland Democrats - Democratic Club of Quail Creek - Democrat Club of Santa Rita Area - Green Party of Pima County - Pima County Democratic Club - Republicans for Environmental Protection - Saguaro Eastside Democrats

1872 Mining Law

- Any individual or corporation can stake a mining claim on public land (FS & BLM)
- Claim is usually 20 acres, and can be staked for \$170.00, held for \$125/year
- Patenting previously allowed the purchase of mining claims for \$2.50/5.00 per acre. Moratorium on patenting passed in 1994 must be voted on each year
- Puts mining as Highest and Best use of Public Land!

1872 Mining Law = Outdated!



- To help settle the west...
- Passed when mining was done with a pick and shovel...
- Ulysses S. Grant was President...
- Before Arizona became a state...
- Before women could vote...

And, although the law hasn't substantially changed, mining has...

Modern Mining



Impacts from Copper Mining

- Water - Quantity & Quality degradation
 - Surface water, Groundwater, Springs
- Air – dust, blowing toxics
- Noise & Lights – 24/7 blasting, crushing, trucks
- Scenic View – Scenic Hwy 83 marred forever
- Traffic Hazards – huge mine trucks on Hwy 83 with school buses, residents & tourists
- Loss of wildlife habitat and movement corridors
- Decrease in property values
- Economic losses – impacts to tourism revenues
- Loss of recreational uses & open space

Santa Ritas & Rosemont Valley – From Mt. Fagan



Impacts to Water - Our Most Precious Resource!

40% of stream reaches in the headwaters of western watersheds in the United States are polluted by mine waste

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *Mine Waste Technology*, Feb. 2007



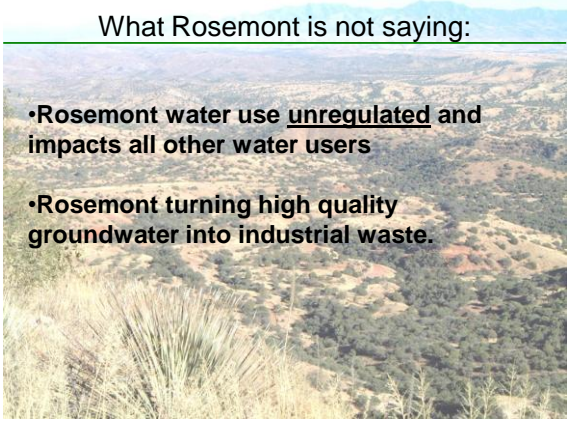


A plume of sulfates from the Green Valley mines currently contaminates local groundwater

Water is our most precious resource in Arizona...

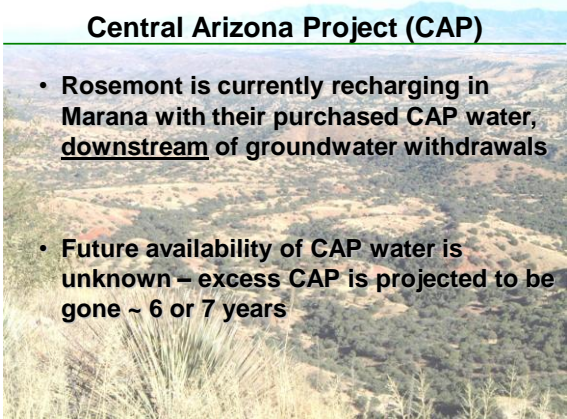


What Rosemont is not saying:



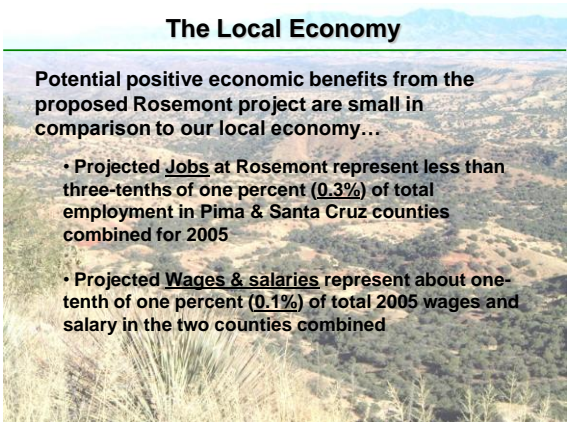
- Rosemont water use unregulated and impacts all other water users
- Rosemont turning high quality groundwater into industrial waste.

Central Arizona Project (CAP)



- Rosemont is currently recharging in Marana with their purchased CAP water, downstream of groundwater withdrawals
- Future availability of CAP water is unknown – excess CAP is projected to be gone ~ 6 or 7 years

The Local Economy

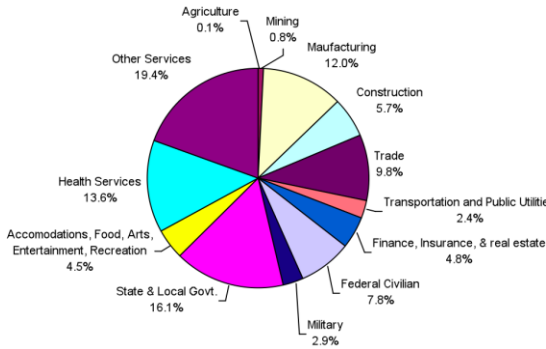


Potential positive economic benefits from the proposed Rosemont project are small in comparison to our local economy...

- Projected Jobs at Rosemont represent less than three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) of total employment in Pima & Santa Cruz counties combined for 2005
- Projected Wages & salaries represent about one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) of total 2005 wages and salary in the two counties combined

What Is Not Listed: Metal Mining

Sources of Real Earnings: Tucson Area (Pima County) 2008



Boom – Bust Economy!



- Of companies currently mining copper in Arizona and New Mexico, combined production is only running at 50% of capacity, industry experts say
- Freeport McMoRan's Dos Pobres mine near Safford, AZ has lowered production and the Morenci mine has cut production in half
- Mining jobs are not stable or sustainable
- Recent economic studies paid for by Rosemont did NOT consider any of the negative impacts

Economic Impacts

Joe Marlow, senior economist with the Sonoran Institute:

"If the proposed Rosemont mine operations displaced only *one percent* of travel and tourism-related spending in the region, the economic loss would be greater than the entire annual payroll of the mine..."

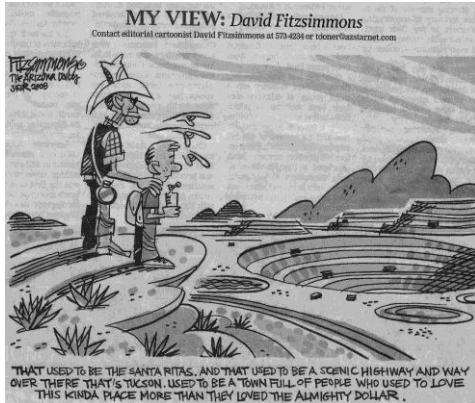
The potential economic benefits of this mine are small compared to the potential significant economic risks."

Mining's potential economic impacts in the Santa Rita and Patagonia Mountains Region of Southeastern Arizona, Sonoran Institute Economic Study, December 2007

Loss of Recreational Uses



Bicycling, Hiking, Camping, Equestrian activities, Picnicking, Photography, Birding, Caving, Hang Gliding, Rock Hounding, Wildlife study, Off-road vehicles, Amateur Astronomy, Botany, Geocaching, Orienteering, Running, Hunting



THAT USED TO BE THE SANTA RITAS, AND THAT USED TO BE A SCENIC HIGHWAY AND WAY OVER THERE THAT'S TUCSON. USED TO BE A TOWN FULL OF PEOPLE WHO USED TO LOVE THIS KINDA PLACE MORE THAN THEY LOVED THE ALMIGHTY DOLLAR.

Help us keep the Rosemont Valley like this!



NOT THIS!



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Thank you!

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