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ARIZONA CAPITOL TIMES

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I, Gary Grado as Managing Editor of the Arizona Capitol Times (AZ), am authorized by the publisher as agent to make this affidavit of publication. Under oath, I state that the following is true and correct.

The Arizona Capitol Times (AZ) which is published weekly, is of general circulation. The notice will be/has been published 1 consecutive times in the newspaper listed above.

DATES OF PUBLICATION:

12/20/2019

DESCRIPTION:

TONTO NATIONAL FOREST / OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON THE PINTO VALLEY MINE DRAFT EIS


AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE
Gary Grado

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME
ON THE 20th DAY OF December 2019.




NOTARY SIGNATURE
Maria Engelmann

LEGAL NOTICE

Opportunity to Comment on the Pinto Valley Mine Draft EIS

The Tonto National Forest, an administrative unit of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, prepared a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate and disclose the potential environmental effects from approval of the preliminary mining plan of operations submitted by Pinto Valley Mining Corp. for the Pinto Valley Mine. The Pinto Valley Mine is an existing open pit copper and molybdenum mine located in Gila County, Arizona, approximately 8 miles west of the Town of Miami.

Pinto Valley Mining Corp. proposes to expand mining activities onto the Tonto National Forest, to extend the mine life to 2039, and to consolidate previous and ongoing authorizations for the mine. The Forest Service must process Pinto Valley Mining Corp.'s proposed mining plan of operations in accordance with Title 36, Part 228.5(a) of the Code of Federal Regulations (36 CFR 228.5(a)) and comply with regulations governing the use of surface resources in conjunction with the proposed mining operations on National Forest System lands. The Forest Service will determine whether to approve the mining plan of operations as submitted, or with changes or additions determined necessary to satisfy applicable regulations. The public scoping process identified air quality, biological resources, landscape productivity, cultural resources, recreation, social and economic conditions, geotechnical stability, and water resources as key issues for analysis.

A notice of availability for the Pinto Valley Mine draft EIS was published in the Federal Register on December 13, 2019. Based on this publication date, the 45-day comment period will close on January 27, 2020. An electronic copy of the draft EIS, Pinto Valley Mining Corp.'s preliminary mining plan of operations, and additional information is available at <http://pintovalleymineeis.us/>. Copies of the draft EIS and supporting maps and documentation are also available for review at the Globe Ranger District office in Globe, Arizona, or the Tonto National Forest Supervisors office in Phoenix, Arizona. Questions about this proposed action should be directed to the Forest Geologist Judd Sampson at (602) 225-6272 or judd.sampson@usda.gov.

The proposed action is subject to the objection process described in 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B.

How to Comment and Timeframe

Comments on the draft EIS may be submitted as follows: 1) By mail to: Tonto National Forest, Pinto Valley Mine EIS Comments, 2324 E McDowell Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85006 (must be postmarked by January 27, 2020), 2) By email to: comment@pintovalleymineeis.us, or 3) Written or oral comments also may be submitted during the two public meetings held by the Forest Service.

When submitting comments, please keep them specific to this project. Comments which are not specific to the project and project area will be deemed outside the scope of the analysis and will not be considered. If you are including references, citations, or additional information to be considered for this project, please provide a copy and specify exactly how the material relates to the project. Also indicate exactly what part of the material you would like us to consider (such as page or figure number).

The Tonto National Forest will host two open house public meetings that will be held in the towns of Miami and Superior for interested and affected individuals, groups and organizations, as well as local, state and tribal governmental agencies. The first public meeting will be held on January 7th at the Superior Junior/Senior High School multipurpose room located at 100 Mary Drive, Superior, Arizona, 85173 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The second public meeting will be held on January 8th at the Bullion Plaza Cultural Center & Museum located at 150 N. Plaza Circle, Miami, Arizona, 85539 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The publication date of the notice in the Federal Register is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period. Written comments must be submitted via mail, electronically, or in-person at the address below. It is the responsibility of the persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period. Only those who submit timely and specific comments will have eligibility to file an objection under the regulations at 36 CFR 218.8. Individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible to object must meet the information requirements in 36 CFR 218.25(a)(3). Names and contact information submitted with comments will become part of the

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public record and may be released under the Freedom of Information Act.
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