PURSUANT TO A.R.S. SECTION 38-431.01, THE GILA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WILL HOLD AN OPEN MEETING IN THE SUPERVISORS' AUDITORIUM, 1400 EAST ASH STREET, GLOBE, ARIZONA. ONE OR MORE BOARD MEMBERS MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING BY TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL OR BY INTERACTIVE TELEVISION VIDEO (ITV). ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA ITV WHICH IS HELD AT 610 E. HIGHWAY 260, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' CONFERENCE ROOM, PAYSON, ARIZONA. THE AGENDA IS AS FOLLOWS:

WORK SESSION - TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2014 - 10:00 A.M.

1 CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2 **REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:**

- A Information/Discussion regarding a proposed revised fee schedule for the Assessor's Office. **(Lisa Romo)**
- B Information/Discussion regarding acquiring property for a new animal shelter. (Michael O'Driscoll)
- C Information/Discussion/Action to consider issuing official comments from the Board of Supervisors to the Tonto National Forest regarding the Resolution Baseline Hydrological and Geotechnical Data Gathering Activities Plan. (Jacque Griffin)
- 3 **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:** Call to the Public is held for public benefit to allow individuals to address the Board of Supervisors on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors. Board members may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute §38-431.01(H), at the conclusion of an open call to the public, individual members of the Board of Supervisors may respond to criticism made by those who have addressed the Board, may ask staff to review a matter or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda for further discussion and decision at a future date.

IF SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS ARE NEEDED, PLEASE CONTACT THE RECEPTIONIST AT (928) 425-3231 AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE THE ACCOMMODATIONS. FOR TTY, PLEASE DIAL 7-1-1 TO REACH THE ARIZONA RELAY SERVICE AND ASK THE OPERATOR TO CONNECT YOU TO (928) 425-3231.

THE BOARD MAY VOTE TO HOLD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING LEGAL ADVICE FROM THE BOARD'S ATTORNEY ON ANY MATTER LISTED ON THE AGENDA PURSUANT TO A.R.S. SECTION 38-431.03(A)((3).

THE ORDER OR DELETION OF ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AT THE MEETING.

ARF-2567 Work Session Meeting Date: 06/10/2014 Submitted For: Deborah Hughes, Assessor

| <u>Submitted By:</u> Lisa Romo, | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Chief Deputy | | |
| Assessor, | | |
| Assessor's | | |
| Office | | |
| | | |

| <u>Department:</u> | Assessor's Office | | |
|--|------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| <u>Fiscal Year:</u> | 2015 | Budgeted?: | Yes |
| <u>Contract Dates</u> Begin & End: | <u>s</u> Upon Approval | <u>Grant?:</u> | No |
| <u>Matching</u> <u>Requirement?</u> : | No | <u>Fund?:</u> | Replacement |

Information

Request/Subject

Assessor's Office Proposed Fee Schedule Increase.

Background Information

This work session will discuss the nature of data requests received by the department and their impact on office resources.

Evaluation

A comparison of fees charged by other Assessor's Offices within Arizona indicates the need to increase fees.

Conclusion

The Assessor's Office may charge fees for certain services as outlined under Arizona Revised Statutes ARS11-251.08 and ARS39-121.03. As required, the Assessor requests that the Board schedule a public hearing to obtain public comments related to this matter.

Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the Assessor that, after the work session concludes and if the Board of Supervisors is in agreement, a public hearing is to be scheduled on a future Board agenda in order to adopt a revised fee schedule for the Assessor's Office.

Suggested Motion

Information/Discussion regarding a proposed revised fee schedule for the Assessor's Office. (Lisa Romo)

| ARF-2581 | | | 2- B |
|--|--|-------------------|--|
| Work Session | | | |
| Meeting Date: | 06/10/2014 | | |
| <u>Submitted For:</u> | Michael O'Driscoll, Health & Emergency Services Division Director | Submitted By: | Michael O'Driscoll Health & Emergency Services Division Director Health & Emergency Services Division |
| <u>Department:</u> | Health & Emergency Services Division | <u>Division:</u> | Health Services |
| <u>Fiscal Year:</u> | 2015 | <u>Budgeted?:</u> | No |
| <u>Contract Dates</u> <u>Begin & End:</u> | TBD | <u>Grant?:</u> | No |
| <u>Matching</u> <u>Requirement?:</u> | No | Fund?: | New |

Information

Request/Subject

Discussion of a potential site for new Gila County animal shelter and options with the City of Globe for acquiring the necessary land for project.

Background Information

Currently, Gila County operates an animal shelter in Globe located next to the cemetery that is owned by the City of Globe. The property is owned by the City of Globe and the building of which the County operates is owned by the Humane Society. Gila County pays rent to the Humane Society for use of the building. The building is dilapidated and has several structural deficiencies.

In 2013, the City of Globe Manager notified the Director of the Gila County Health and Emergency Services Division that it will be necessary for Gila County to vacate the property in the near future for expansion to their cemetery.

Evaluation

The property is adjacent to the City of Globe Public Works yard. The County is looking at 2 acres that will be jointly held in the name of the City and County so that there will not be any questions by future Councils or Boards. The current left field fence on one of the baseball fields will be removed as well as one of the lights in order to accommodate a road. The County will have to do the excavation of the property and the City will be responsible for running water and sewer to the property and, at that point, the County would consider everything to be even. In discussions between the County Manager and the Public Works Division Director, it was acknowledged that because the City does not have any capital to put into the structure, it was agreed that the Board could consider having the County pay for the building and the City could pay back the County their 50% over a period of years. This will allow the County to move forward with the project.

Conclusion

This two acre piece of property would provide Gila County with enough space to build a new animal shelter and provide a strong collaboration with the City of Globe.

Serious consideration should be given to acquire this piece of property so a new animal control facility can be planned for and built.

Recommendation

Based on the information supplied by the Public Works Division Director, the Health and Emergency Services Division Director recommends that the Board of Supervisors consider the acquisition of this property as the first step in the process of building a new animal shelter.

Suggested Motion

Information/Discussion regarding acquiring property for a new animal shelter. **(Michael O'Driscoll)**

ARF-2580 Work Session Meeting Date: 06/10/2014 Submitted For: Jacque Griffin, Asst. County Manager/Librarian

Jacque Griffin, Asst. County Manager/Librarian Asst County Manager/Library District Division: Asst County Manager/Library District Division: Administrative Servic

Information

Request/Subject

Department:

Provide comment on a proposed Plan of Operations for the Resolution Baseline Hydrological and Geotechnical Data Gathering Activities

Background Information

The Tonto National Forest has opened a comment period regarding a proposed Plan of Operations (Plan) for the Resolution Baseline Hydrological and Geotechnical Data Gathering Activities Submitted by Resolution Copper Mining, LLC (Resolution). The project is proposed on lands within the Tonto National Forest on the Mesa and Globe Ranger Districts in Pinal County. This project is approximately six miles north and west of the town of Superior, and is located north of the Hewitt Station Road in the Superstition foothills.

Resolution proposes to conduct baseline hydrologic, geochemical, and geotechnical data in order to provide baseline information on these aspects of the environment over an area being considered for a potential tailings storage site related to Resolution's proposed General Plan of Operations. Resolution is entitled to conduct operations that are reasonably incidental to exploration and development of mineral deposits on its unpatented mining claims pursuant to U.S. Mining Laws.

The total project area proposed for the Baseline Activities, including new construction activity, road improvements, use of short term temporary access roads and existing road surfaces is approximately 93 acres. Proposed new construction disturbance would occur on a total of 31.74 acres, all Tonto Forest land.

Tonto National Forest has determined that an Environmental Analysis (EA) is the appropriate level of analysis for this proposed plan. This EA will identify the activities in the proposal as the "proposed action," and identify alternatives in response to issues that may be identified during the NEPA scoping process. The Tonto Forest is initiating scoping efforts to identify those issues and questions to be considered in the evaluation.

Comments should be within scope of the proposed action, have a direct relationship to the proposed action, and include supporting reasons for the Responsible Official to consider. Comments are due by 4:30 pm, on Monday, June 23, 2014.

es

<u>Evaluation</u>

Resolution Copper has spent the past ten years and several million dollars developing plans to access the additional copper ore body that was discovered in 1996. The economic benefit to the local area as well as to Arizona will continue for at least another 50 years. The next phases of environmental studies, construction, operation and reclamation, will create an estimated economic benefit of \$20 billion in federal, state and local tax revenue, more than \$14 billion in wages, and a total economic impact of more than \$61 billion over its 60 year lifespan.

As part of the engineering and environmental phase, this proposed action gathers data on the future potential tailings storage site. Resolution has been engaged in ongoing discussions with local private land owners, and the proposed location addresses the local residents' concerns and issues

Conclusion

Resolution Copper will have an economic benefit to Gila County, and as such, Gila County has a special interest in this proposal. Providing comments to this scoping phase of the Environmental Assessment will be considered part of the public record of this analysis by the Tonto Forest as it moves forward in this project, and will ensure that Gila County is kept informed as the process continues.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board of Supervisors issue official comments on the Resolution Baseline Hydrological and Geotechnical Data gathering Activities.

Suggested Motion

Information/Discussion/Action to consider issuing official comments from the Board of Supervisors to the Tonto National Forest regarding the Resolution Baseline Hydrological and Geotechnical Data Gathering Activities Plan. (Jacque Griffin)

<u>Attachments</u>

<u>Comment Letter Resolution Data Gathering Plan</u> <u>Scoping Letter Tonto Forest Resolution Data Gathering Plan</u> **Tommie C. Martin, District I** 610 E. Hwy 260, Payson, 85547 (928) 474-2029 **tmartin@gilacountyaz.gov**

Michael A. Pastor, District II (928) 402-8753 <u>mpastor@gilacountyaz.gov</u>

John D. Marcanti, District III (928) 402-8726 jmarcanti@gilacountyaz.gov



GILA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 1400 E. Ash Street Globe, Arizona 85501 Don E. McDaniel, Jr., County Manager (928) 402-4344 dmcdaniel@gilacountyaz.gov

Marian Sheppard, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors (928) 402-8757 <u>msheppard@gilacountyaz.gov</u>

June 10, 2014

Mr. Neil Bosworth, Forest Supervisor Tonto National Forest 2324 East Mc Dowell Road Phoenix, AZ 85006

File Code: 1950/2810

Re: Gila County Comments in response to scoping letter regarding Resolution Baseline Hydrological and Geotechnical Data Gathering Activities

Dear Forest Supervisor Bosworth,

In response to the request for public comment regarding the proposed Plan of Operations (Plan) for the Resolution Baseline Hydrological and Geotechnical Data Gathering Activities, the Gila County Board of Supervisors would like to provide the following comments. Although not located with the geographic boundaries of Gila County, Resolution Copper has and will continue to create an economic benefit to Gila County, and as such, Gila County has a special interest in this proposal. We are a rural county with a population of 53,144, of which 12% are unemployed and 21% are living at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.

Within this project, the proposed new construction would create disturbance on a total of 31.74 acres of previously undisturbed Tonto Forest Land, while the majority of the proposal would impact another 61.24 acres of previously disturbed land or existing roadways. Given that the Tonto Forest is comprised of nearly three million acres, this represents an incredibly small amount of impacted land, for the return benefit of gathering the baseline data necessary to advance this project to the next stage.

Resolution is entitled to conduct operations that are reasonably incidental to exploration and development of mineral deposits on its unpatented mining claims pursuant to U.S. Mining Laws. In addition, we believe that this proposed Plan of Activities is consistent with the Tonto National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) of 1985 as amended, and that the mineral exploration, development and operational activities as outlined in this proposed plan will be conducted in a manner that minimizes adverse environmental impact on the Tonto Nation Forest surface resources as codified in 36 CFR Part 28.

As part of the engineering and environmental phase, this proposed action gathers data on the future potential tailings storage site. Resolution Copper, LLC has been engaged in ongoing discussions with local private land owners, and the proposed location addresses the local residents' concerns and issues. After reviewing the

Resolution Copper has spent the past ten years and several million dollars developing plans to access the additional copper ore body that was discovered in 1996. The economic benefit to the local area as well as to Arizona will continue for at least another 50 years with an estimated economic benefit of more than \$61 billion over the expected 60 year lifespan of the operation, including an estimated \$20 billion in federal, state and local tax revenue and more than \$14 billion in wages.

In Gila County, we recognize and understand the importance of protecting our natural resources while providing opportunities and access to those whose livelihoods depend on resources located on federal land as well as access for multiple use, multi-cultural activities, and multi-recreational opportunities to the public. Historically, our economy and our residents have depended heavily upon resource-based industries and, more recently, upon recreation opportunities on federal land. We appreciate that we must take care of the land, but we need to be able to use the land to take care of ourselves.

The Gila County Board of Supervisors thanks you for the opportunity to comment and requests to be kept informed and included in the process as this analysis continues.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Pastor Chairman Gila County Board of Supervisors

Date



GILA COUNTY - DIG LING III

MAY 20 2014

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2324 E. McDowell Rd. Phoenix, AZ 85006 Phone: 602.225.5200 602.225.5295 Fax: V/TTY: 602.225.5395

File Code: 1950/2810 Date: May 13, 2014

Re: Public Comment Period May 24, 2014 to June 23, 2014 Resolution Baseline Hydrological & Geotechnical Data Gathering Activities

Tonto National Forest

Dear Interested Parties:

Forest

Service

The Tonto National Forest (Forest) welcomes your comments on a proposed Plan of Operations (Plan) for the Resolution Baseline Hydrological & Geotechnical Data Gathering Activities, submitted by Resolution Copper Mining, LLC (Resolution). Resolution proposes to conduct baseline hydrologic, geochemical, and geotechnical data gathering activities (Baseline Activities) on National Forest System lands administered by the Forest. The project is proposed on the Mesa and Globe Ranger Districts in Pinal County, Arizona, approximately 6 miles north and west of the town of Superior, in the following non-contiguous areas of National Forest System lands in the following townships, ranges and sections of the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian (Figure 1):

Township 1 South, Range 11 East in portions of Sections 13, 23-27 and 35-36; Township 1 South, Range 12 East in portions of Sections 19, 20 and 28-33; Township 2 South, Range 11 East in portions of Sections 1 and 2; and Township 2 South, Range 12 East in portions of Section 6.

The proposed Plan is subject to the Project-Level Pre-decisional Administrative Review Process under Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 218, Subparts A and B.

Purpose and Need: The purpose of the proposed action is to collect hydrologic, geochemical, and geotechnical data in order to provide baseline information on these aspects of the environment over an area being considered for a potential tailings storage site related to Resolution's proposed General Plan of Operations. Resolution is entitled to conduct operations that are reasonably incidental to exploration and development of mineral deposits on its unpatented mining claims pursuant to U.S. Mining Laws. Under regulations of the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Resolution must conduct mining operations in accordance with the requirements found at 36 CFR Part 228A and in accordance with a plan of operations that has been approved by the Forest Service. The need for the proposed Federal action is for compliance with the requirement that the Forest Service respond to a proposed plan of operations to conduct mining operations on National Forest System lands pursuant to U.S. Mining Laws.

Proposed Action: Resolution's proposed action consists of hydrologic, geochemical, and geotechnical baseline data gathering activities including construction of hydrologic testing and monitoring wells and well pads, installation of geotechnical drill holes and piezometers, construction of geotechnical test trenches, improvements to existing roads, and maintenance of existing roads in the data gathering activities area (Figure 2). Data to be obtained from hydrologic testing and monitoring wells include depth to groundwater level, rock characteristics and geochemistry of drill cuttings, aquifer hydraulic parameters, and chemical quality of



groundwater. Geotechnical drill holes and piezometers would be used to define the baseline soil and bedrock hydrological and geotechnical conditions (depth to water). Test trenches would be used to identify the physical properties of the soils. Specifically, Resolution's proposed Baseline Activities are the following:

- 1) Construct 16 drill sites to accommodate a total of 16 groundwater testing and monitoring wells that would impact approximately 4.21 acres;
- 2) Complete 41 geotechnical drill holes and piezometer installations that would impact approximately 0.27 acres;
- 3) Construct geotechnical test trenches at 33 sites that would impact approximately 1.32 acres;
- Complete roadway improvements to facilitate access to data gathering sites on approximately 12.26 miles of existing roads and previously disturbed areas proposed to be used as temporary access roads on National Forest System lands that would impact approximately 16.42 acres;
- 5) Construct contractor laydown yards that would impact approximately 2.19 acres;
- 6) Conduct road maintenance for access to drill sites with monitoring wells or piezometers installed on National Forest System lands; and
- 7) Use of short term temporary access roads to bring a tracked rig to off-road locations, which would impact approximately 7.33 acres.

The total project area proposed for the Baseline Activities, which takes into account new construction activity, road improvements, use of short term temporary access roads and existing road surfaces requiring no improvements is approximately 92.98 acres. Proposed new construction disturbance would occur on a total of 31.74 acres, all on National Forest System lands. Resolution's proposed occupancy and authorization periods, and proposed reclamation timeframes for Baseline Activities are presented in Table 1.

| Proposed Activity | Proposed Occupancy Period | Proposed Authorization Period | Proposed Reclamation Timeframes |
|---|---|---|---|
| Hydrological Monitoring Wells: Construction of drill sites and wells | Approximately 25 weeks of drilling activity | Within 2 years from approval of the proposed Plan | At the conclusion of testing and monitoring activities |
| Geotechnical Drilling/Piezometer Installation | Approximately 40 weeks of drilling activity (1 hole per | Within 2 years from approval of the proposed Plan | Immediately at the end of the Proposed |

 Table 1. Resolution's Baseline Activities Proposed Occupancy and Authorization Periods,

 and Proposed Reclamation Timeframes

Public Comment Period May 24, 2014 to June 23, 2014 Resolution Baseline Hydrological & Geotechnical Data Gathering Activities Page 2 of 6

| Proposed Activity | Proposed Occupancy Period week) during a maximum 1 week occupancy period per geotechnical hole | Proposed Authorization Period | Proposed Reclamation Timeframes Occupancy Period |
|---|---|---|--|
| Geotechnical Test Trenches | Approximately 14 weeks of surface activity | Within 2 years from approval of the proposed Plan | Immediately at the end of the Proposed Occupancy Period |
| Laydown Yards | Throughout the Proposed Authorization Period | Within 2 years from approval of the proposed Plan | Immediately at the end of the Proposed Occupancy Period |
| Hydrological Monitoring Wells and Piezometers Testing and Monitoring Activities | Throughout the Proposed Authorization Period | 10 years from approval of the proposed Plan | At the end of the Proposed Authorization Period |
| Road Maintenance and Drill Site Access for Hydrological Monitoring Wells Testing and Monitoring | Throughout the Proposed Authorization Period | 10 years from approval of the proposed Plan | At the end of the Proposed Authorization Period |

Access to the proposed project area would be gained from U.S. Highway 60. Approximately 38.44 miles of existing forest roads, 3.39 miles of previously disturbed areas proposed to be used as temporary access roads, and 6.05 miles of short term temporary access roads on National Forest System lands would be used to gain access to the proposed data gathering sites. Approximately 12.26 miles of the proposed access roads would require improvements and maintenance and be graded for drill rigs and support vehicles to traverse them safely; this includes Forest Roads 252, 518, 1903, 1904, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1918, 2359, 2364, 2371, 2387 and 3713 and four segments of previously disturbed areas to be used as temporary access roads. In some places, forest roads may need to be widened to accommodate the equipment and drill rigs. Approximately 3.39 miles of short term temporary access roads would be used to access test trenches and geotechnical sites, for a period of about two days.

Federal Mining Laws and Forest Plan Direction: The statutory right of Resolution to mine mineral resources on federally administered lands is recognized in the *General Mining Law of 1872* and is consistent with *Tonto National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan* (LRMP) of 1985, as amended. Surface management regulations, codified in *36 CFR Part 228*, require that all mineral exploration, development, and operational activities be conducted in a manner that minimizes adverse environmental impacts on National Forest surface resources (*36 CFR Part 228.8*). The Forest Service is required to ensure that the proposed Plan is in compliance with *36 CFR Part 228* and to analyze impacts of proposed activities in accordance with requirements of the *National Environmental Policy Act* (NEPA).

Forest-wide management direction pertinent to minerals is to "Support environmentally sound energy and minerals development" (page 22, LRMP). Resolution's proposed project is located in Plan Management Areas (MA) 2F and 3I. Direction for minerals in MA 2F and 3I includes processing operating plans as needed. Other applicable forest-wide goals, objectives, and management area standards, including protection of air, culture resources, recreation opportunities, soils, visual resources, water and wildlife, are found in LRMP (pages 35 through 51).

NEPA Review: Based on initial review, it has been determined that an *Environmental Assessment* (EA) would be the appropriate level of analysis for the proposed Plan. This EA will identify the activities proposed in the Plan as the "proposed action." It will also identify alternatives to the proposed action in response to issues that may be identified during the NEPA scoping process.

In accordance with the requirements of NEPA, the EA will include an evaluation of the *No Action* alternative. Under the *No Action* alternative, the Baseline Activities would not be conducted, however due to the statutory rights afforded by the U.S. Mining Laws; the Forest Service cannot select the *No Action* alternative as a preferred alternative. The purpose for incorporating the *No Action* alternative is to provide a baseline from which impacts of other alternatives can be evaluated. The analysis documented in the EA will determine the effects of each alternative on resources identified during scoping and identify appropriate mitigation and monitoring measures to minimize adverse impacts to those resources.

Based on the environmental analysis and disclosure documented in the EA, the Forest Service will:

- 1. Decide whether to select the Baseline Activities as proposed or modified, or as described in an alternative developed during the NEPA process;
- 2. Determine what mitigation measures are needed; and
- 3. Determine what monitoring may be required.

This NEPA review addresses Resolution's proposal to collect hydrologic, geochemical, and geotechnical data in order to provide baseline information over an area being considered for a potential tailings storage site. Resolution has submitted other minerals-related proposals to the Forest, such as the General Plan of Operations. However, the impacts of that and other proposals would be evaluated in separate NEPA reviews. Resolution's Baseline Activities Plan proposes

to collect baseline information in order to inform whether aspects of Resolution's proposed General Plan of Operations are feasible.

Requests for Comments: You are encouraged to provide comments on the proposed project. The Forest is initiating scoping efforts to identify those issues and questions to be considered in the evaluation.

There are a variety of ways to learn about the proposed project and provide scoping comments. A public open house will be held in the Multi-Purpose room at Superior Junior/Senior High School located at 100 Mary Drive in Superior, Arizona. The public open house will be held on Tuesday, June 10th, 2014 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. An electronic copy of Resolution's proposed Baseline Activities Plan is available on the Forest website. Comments may be provided to the Forest Service at the open house using comment forms that will be available at the meeting. Comments may also be submitted before or after the open house by mail, email, fax, or through the Forest web page located at http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/tonto/landmanagement/projects.

Specific written comments (*36 CFR Part 218.2*) on the proposed project will be accepted for 30 calendar days following publication of this notice in the newspaper of record, the *Arizona Capitol Times;* if the comment period ends on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, comments will be accepted until the end of the next Federal working day. The publication date in newspaper of record is exclusive means for calculating comment period. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

Comments should be within scope of the proposed action, have a direct relationship to proposed action, and must include supporting reasons for Responsible Official to consider (*36 CFR Part 218.2*). Comments which are not specific to the project and project area will be deemed outside scope of 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 material relates to the project. Also indicate exactly what part of material you would like us to consider (such as page or figure number).

Specific written comments must be submitted via mail, fax, or in person (Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding holidays) to: Mr. Neil Bosworth, Forest Supervisor, Tonto National Forest, 2324 East McDowell Road, Phoenix, AZ 85006, or Fax: (602) 225-5295. Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, and electronic comments will be accepted. Electronic comments including attachments may be submitted by email in word (.doc), rich text format (.rtf), text (.txt), and hypertext markup language (.html) to <u>comments-southwestern-tonto@fs.fed.us</u>.

Only individuals or entities (as defined by 36 CFR Part 218.2) who submit timely and specific written comments (as defined by 36 CFR Part 218.2) about this proposed project or activity during this or another public comment period established by the Responsible Official will be eligible to file an objection. Other requirements to be eligible to submit an objection are defined by 36 CFR Part 218.25 (a)(3) and include name, postal address, title of project, and signature or other verification of identity upon request and identity of individual or entity who authored comments. Individual members of an entity must submit their own individual comments in order to have eligibility to object as an individual. A timely submission will be determined as outlined

in 36 CFR Part 218.25 (a)(4). It is the responsibility of the sender to ensure timely receipt of any comments submitted. Comments received in response to this scoping letter, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this proposal and will be available for public inspection and will be released if requested under the *Freedom of Information Act*.

If you have any project-related questions or wish to be removed from the project mailing list, please contact Celeste (Daisy) Kinsey, Minerals NEPA Coordinator and ID Team Leader at 602-225-5248, or <u>ckinsey@fs.fed.us</u>. Thank you for your interest and participation in the activities on the Globe and Mesa Ranger Districts of the Tonto National Forest.

Sincerely,

NEIL J. BOSWORTH Forest Supervisor

Enclosures

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202.720.2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202.720.5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Public Comment Period May 24, 2014 to June 23, 2014 Resolution Baseline Hydrological & Geotechnical Data Gathering Activities Page 6 of 6

