DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1455 MARKET STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94103-1399

COPY
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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

23 SEP 2016

Commander, South Pacific Division

Mr. Patrick Merrin, Vice President
Hudbay – Arizona Business Unit
Rosemont Copper Company
Suite W1065
Tucson, Arizona 85711

Dear Mr. Merrin:

Thank you for your letter of September 7, 2016 regarding my review and evaluation of the Department of the Army (DA) permit application for the proposed Rosemont Copper Mine in southeastern Arizona, referred to me by Colonel Kirk Gibbs, Los Angeles District Engineer, on July 25, 2016.

As noted in your letter and pursuant to 33 CFR 325.8(b)(2), the DA permit application was referred to me for resolution and decision because the District Engineer's recommended decision is contrary to the written position of the Governor of Arizona, the state in which the work would be performed.

Accordingly, I have asked my Operations and Regulatory Division staff to review and evaluate the administrative record prepared by the Los Angeles District for this DA permit application. I anticipate the initial staff review and evaluation of the administrative record will be completed by November 1, 2016. Depending on the results of the review, I may schedule a site visit to the proposed project location thereafter, if practicable for Rosemont Copper Company and key interested stakeholders.

If you have any further questions regarding our review and evaluation of this DA permit application, please contact Mr. Edwin "Stu" Townsley, Chief, Operations and Regulatory Division, at (415) 503-6593.

BUILDING STRONG!

Sincerely,

D. Peter Helmlinger, P.E.
Colonel, U.S. Army
Commanding