AZ STATE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION

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Colonel Kimberly M. Colloton, PMP
Los Angeles District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
915 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Colonel Colloton:

On behalf of the Arizona Building and Construction Trades Council (AZBTC) – a labor organization comprised of 17 affiliate construction trade organizations representing more than 11,000 construction workers in Arizona – the proposed Rosemont Copper project greatly benefits the public interest because of its extensive economic impact on the Arizona and national economy.

During the mine's first 20 years, 2,100 annual direct and indirect jobs would be supported locally, with another 800 positions supported at the state level and another 1,300 national jobs supported. The project will have an annual economic impact of $701 million to southern Arizona, a $900 million impact to the state of Arizona and $1.3 billion impact to the United States. When in production, the mine will account for about 10 percent of U.S. copper production.

This project will serve the public interest by training crafts men and women who will fill future in-demand construction jobs.

AZBTC apprenticeship programs are the best in the state, spending on average $5.1 million per year on their privately funded apprenticeship-training programs. On average, an AZBTC apprenticeship program consists of 6,281 hours of on-the-job training and 580 hours of classroom instruction. Some trades are more demanding, requiring their apprentices to complete more than 8,000 hours of on-the-job training and 900 hours of classroom instruction. In the case of the AZBTC, we believe top-notch classroom instruction is a necessary investment in our apprentices because we pride ourselves on having the safest, best trained workforce in the state.

Rosemont now awaits the 404 permit from the Corps of Engineers. After a rigorous 6-year public review process, it is time to move forward.

Sincerely,

Martin Buzz Murphy

Martin "Buzz" Murphy
President
Arizona Building and Construction Trades Council

WORKING TO BUILD A BETTER COMMUNITY

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