STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

March 4, 2014

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

Re: The Rosemont Copper Project and the Public Interest

Dear Colonel Colloton:

Please accept my sincere appreciation for the hard work your agency has devoted to the Rosemont Copper Project in Arizona. As you know, the United States Forest Service (Forest Service) has conducted a rigorous six year-long Environmental EIS process that involved approximately 20 public hearings and three local, nine state, five federal agencies and one tribal government as cooperating agencies. The Corps of Engineers has played an extensive, important role in this process with responsibility for Section 404 permitting under the Clean Water Act, and now it has come to my attention that the Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps) is nearing a final decision on the Section 404 permit for the Rosemont Project. And so, I write today to express the official State of Arizona position on this project under the Army Corps regulations at 33 Code of Federal Regulations Section 320.4(j)(3) and (2).

I am convinced that the public interest will be advanced by approval of the Rosemont Copper Project and the issuance of its Section 404 permit by the Army Corps. Many of the agencies in my cabinet have completed their work on this project and issued protective permits. For example, the Department of Environmental Quality has issued both a Clean Air Permit and an Aquifer Protection Permit. The State Land Department has worked to ensure the utility corridor on state land meets cultural resource standards, and the State Historic Preservation Officer has been involved in protecting Arizona's cultural resources throughout the entire project and will sign the Memorandum of Agreement to ensure it. Finally, the Game and Fish Department has entered into an Agreement in Principle with Rosemont, in which Rosemont will fund land, water and habitat conservation measures.

For its part, the Forest Service has acted on mitigation measures and has issued a draft Record of Decision in December, that included mitigation measures that were developed to minimize,

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eliminate or compensate for the impacts that the preferred action alternative, the "Barrel Alternative," would have on the environment.

Finally, the Rosemont Copper Project will play a key role in Arizona's Comeback from the Great Recession that hit us so hard. During the mine's first 20 years, 2,900 annual direct and indirect jobs would be supported locally, with another 4,581 positions supported at the state level and 9,043 jobs at the national level. 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 dramatic economic growth will serve the public interest, and is specifically recognized in the Army Corps regulations at 33 CFR Section 320.4(q) as contributing to the public interest.

I commend you and your colleagues for a strong commitment to a thorough and credible permit process. I encourage you to complete the 404 permit and issue it as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely,

Janice K. Brewer

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

cc: The Honorable Tom Vilsack
The Honorable John McHugh
The Honorable Jo-Ellen Darcy
The Honorable Gina McCarthy
Michael Boots