



Via Email: mila@superioraz.gov

The Honourable Mayor Besich
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Dear Mayor Besich,

Subject: Response to Concerns Regarding Bronco Creek Exploration Activities

Thank you for your letter and for sharing your continued dedication to advancing the Resolution Copper project in a manner that benefits both the Town of Superior and all Copper Triangle project stakeholders. I trust your summer has brought moments of rest and optimism — sentiments that we, too, have shared following the re-release of the Resolution Copper FEIS and the recent decision by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Let me begin by reaffirming Rio Tinto's solid commitment to our partnership with the Town of Superior. We deeply value the decades of collaborative effort that have gone into building a shared vision for a thriving, sustainable community alongside the development of a world-class copper mine.

Your concerns regarding the Superior West exploration project have been heard and are being taken very seriously. I hear the deep disappointment and frustration you've expressed, especially given the long-standing efforts to ensure that the land involved in the Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and the mutually developed mitigation measures disclosed in the final EIS supports both mining and economic diversification for Superior.

Let me offer the following clarifications and commitments:

Status of Bronco Creek and Our Commitment to Resolution

Rio Tinto Exploration (RTX) has been actively working to resolve the situation surrounding the Bronco Creek claims. I can confirm that negotiations with Bronco Creek have been ongoing with the intent of reaching an outcome that fully aligns with the interests of the Town of Superior, as well as the broader Resolution Copper project. I recognize the importance of this area to your community's future economic development and we share your view that this issue must be resolved to allow the project to proceed in a spirit of mutual trust.

We are prioritizing the resolution of the Bronco Creek matter. It will take some time to resolve the matter, but I have instructed our teams to finalize a clear path forward. Our intent is to be fully transparent with the Town and provide the assurance you need for the important decisions ahead.

Our Responsibility and Accountability

It is clear to me that our response to the original concerns raised about Bronco Creek several years ago did not meet the standards we hold ourselves to — nor the expectations of our partners. For that, I sincerely apologize. We must do better, and we will.

We recognize that delays in addressing this matter have understandably eroded trust. I assure you this is not a reflection of diminished commitment, and we are actively seeking to correct this.

A Shared Vision Moving Forward

The vision we share — of a vibrant Town of Superior underpinned by responsible mining and economic diversity — remains our north star. We remain steadfast in our belief that the Resolution Copper project is not only technically and economically significant but can also serve as a global model for respectful partnership with local communities.

Mayor Besich, I appreciate your candor and leadership. Please know that I, along with Bold, Clayton, Katie, and the entire Rio Tinto team, remain personally committed to rebuilding trust and forging a stronger, more aligned partnership. Let us continue our work together with renewed focus and mutual respect, confident in the future we are building side by side.

Warm regards,



Jakob Stausholm

Chief Executive

CC: Todd Pryor, Town Manager (via email: manager@superioraz.gov)