

Dawn Meidinger Director

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September 26, 2022

Via CARA, U.S. Mail and Email to: <u>SM.FS.TontoPlan@USDA.gov</u>

USDA-Forest Service Southwest Region ATTN: Objection Reviewing Officer 333 Broadway Blvd SE Albuquerque, NM 87102

## Re: Tonto National Forest Plan Revision - Interested Person Request

On behalf of Pinto Valley Mining Corp. ("PVMC"), I am writing to request a meeting be held to resolve PVMC's filed objection on the Tonto National Forest ("TNF") Land Management Plan Revision and that PVMC be granted "interested person" status relative to the consideration of other certain objections pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 219.57.

The contact information for PVMC is as follows:

Pinto Valley Mining Corp. P.O. Box 100, 2911 N Forest Service Rd 287 Miami, AZ, 85539

Attn: Tim Ralston, Manager, External & Regulatory Affairs

Telephone: 928-473-6302

Email: tralston@capstonecopper.com

PVMC has an interest in issues submitted by the Sierra Club, et al (dated September 6, 2022). The Sierra Club objection raises issues related to plan components associated with exploration and mining (pgs. 28-32) and Riparian Ecological Response Units (pgs. 45-46) that PVMC opposes and has addressed in its own filed objection.

PVMC has participated in the TNF planning process since its inception including participating in public workshops and meetings, submitting comments on the preliminary proposed TNF Land Management Plan Revision and the 2020 draft TNF Land Management Plan Revision and draft environmental impact statement and the filing of a formal objection on September 6, 2022.

## FENNEMORE.

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We appreciate consideration of PVMC's meeting and "interested person" requests. PVMC's "interested person" status request in no way nullifies or diminishes its participation in the objection resolution process as a qualified objector. In the event you have questions about the foregoing or wish to discuss schedule availability please feel free to contact Tim Ralston using the information included above.

Sincerely,

FENNEMORE CRAIG, P.C.

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cc: Timothy Ralston, Manager, Land, Permitting, Environmental & Regulatory Affairs