

ARIZONA MINING ASSOCIATION 916 W Adams Street Suite 2 Phoenix AZ 85007 (602) 266-4416

September 26, 2002

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

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

Re: Tonto National Forest Plan Revision - Meeting and Interested Person Request

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

AMA's contact information is as follows:

Arizona Mining Association 916 W. Adams St., Ste. 2 Phoenix, AZ 85007

Attn: Steve Trussell, Executive Director

Telephone: 602-266-4416 Email: steve@azmining.org

AMA has an interest in issues submitted by two other objectors:

- 1). <u>Objection of Greg Warren, Recreational Access Fund</u> (dated August 6, 2022), which raises issues related to the plan components and management of the Arizona National Scenic Trail and its related recreational opportunity spectrum setting that AMA opposes and has addressed in its own filed objection; and
- 2). <u>Objection of Sierra Club, et al (dated September 6, 2022)</u> which raises issues related to plan components associated with mining (pgs. 28-32) and Riparian Ecological Response Units (pgs. 45-46) that AMA opposes and has addressed in its own filed objection.

AMA has participated in the TNF planning process since its inception including participating in public workshops and meeting, submitting comments on the 2020 draft TNF Land Management Plan Revision and draft environmental impact statement and the filing of a formal objection on September 2, 2022.

Web: www.azmining.org Twitter: @azmining FB: Arizona Mining Association

We appreciate consideration of AMA's meeting and "interested person" requests. AMA'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 me using the information included above.

Sincerely,

Steve Trussell, Executive Director