



# YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION

Executive Office

Chairman Jon Huey

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December 13, 2019

Neil Bosworth, Supervisor  
Tonto National Forest Service  
2324 E. McDowell Road  
Phoenix, Arizona 86006

**RE: Yavapai-Apache Nation Comments on the Resolution Copper Mine EIS**

Dear Supervisor Bosworth:

On behalf of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, we share our concerns and recommendations regarding the Resolution Copper Mine.

**Consultation:**

The consultation with the Tonto National Forest Service and the Yavapai-Apache Nation has been fair and open. Your most recent effort was an inclusive event attended by concerned Tribes in late October 2019. The meeting was beneficial to discuss important issues and respond to them. The meeting was conducted with several Tribes who shared their perspectives; however the Nation prefers a government to government consultation as a face to face conversation between the Nation and the Tonto National Forest Service. We look forward to scheduling a consultation in the near future.

**THE TRIBAL MONITORING PROGRAM**

We support this effort as a step forward in the evolution of Cultural Resource Management (CRM). We have some concerns about how information gathered is being incorporated into the data set. We believe the monitoring program should be more fully integrated into the long-term CRM plan. This is a positive program and with further consultation with the Nation the concerns will sort out over time.

**LOCATION OF THE MINE SPOILS/TAILINGS**

Vincent Randall, the Nation's Apache Culture Director has been involved with the process of designating a tailing site since its inception, including visiting the proposed sites. The challenge has been to identify a location with minimal environmental and cultural heritage impact. Our preferred alternative is the Skunk Camp near Hayden.

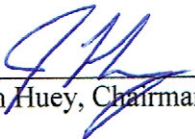
**CONTINUITY**

Enclosed is the Nation's letter dated October 6, 2017 for your reference regarding Apache Leap and the Resolution Copper Mine. We are fully aware of the significant ongoing cultural and environmental impacts it will

generate. It is our intention, working in conjunction with the Tonto National Forest Service, to mitigate the impacts to Shii Ke Yaa (the Apache Homeland) to the extent we can.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Additionally, the Nation appreciates the work Nanebah Nez Lyndon has done to make the consultation process professional and comprehensive. The Nation submitted an official letter in October 2019 reflecting our participation in the process, as well as a letter requesting mitigation measures that we believe off-set the cultural and environmental impact of the project. It is our hope the process continues without interruption and in respect to those Tribes who have actively participated in the process.

Cordially,



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Jon Huey, Chairman

CC: Tanya Lewis, Vice Chairwoman  
Vincent Randall, YAN Apache Culture Director  
Scott Canty, YAN Attorney General  
Chris Coder, YAN Cultural Office  
Nanebah Nez Lyndon, Tonto National Forest Service