

Meeting #39
December 9, 2015
MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Attendees

Community Working Group members present:

Rick Cartier – Superior Chamber of Commerce alternate
Pam Bennett – Queen Valley Community Liaison
Bruce Wittig – Queen Valley Water Board
JoAnn Besich – Superior Optimist Club
Pamela Rabago – Superior Chamber of Commerce
George Martin – JF Ranch
Lynn Martin – JF Ranch
Jeff Bunkelmann – Central Arizona College
Mark Siegwarth – Boyce Thompson Arboretum
Hank Gutierrez - Superior Copper Alliance
Nancy Vogler – LOST Trail
Bill Vogler – Superior Copper Alliance
Fred Gaudet – Arizona Trail Association
Roy Chavez - Concerned Citizens and Retired Miners
Anthony Huerta – Town of Superior
Cecil Fendley – Queen Valley Water Board
Arlynn Godinez, Superintendent - Superior Unified School District

Community Working Group members not present:

Matt Nelson – Arizona Trail Association
Evelyn Vargas – Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center
Tiffany Rowell – Superior resident

Resolution Copper Company:

Jim Schenk – Manager for Communities & Social Performance
Vicky Peacey - Senior Manager of Approvals, Communities & Environment
Kami Ballard – Environmental and Permitting Specialist
Frank Deal – Tailings Engineer

Facilitators – Godec, Randall & Associates (GRA)

John Godec
Debra Duerr

Presenter:

Tony Coggan - Truescape

Public Guests:

Nathan Higgenbottom – University of Arizona
Jack Yarrington – Central Arizona College
Robert Jacques – Claypool
Norm Ratliff - Miami

Housekeeping

Ian Edgar from Resolution Copper Project visited the group to say goodbye, as he has accepted another job in Indonesia. Members expressed their gratitude for working with the group since its inception, their regret at his departure, and wished him well. John Godec observed that the subject of our meeting tonight is the same one we talked about at our very first meeting: tailings. He asked Debra Duerr to provide an update on activities and status of the CWG subcommittees and task forces. Duerr noted that there are now 5 subgroups, including 2 new ones for Community Monitoring and Conservation Lands. Information related to these groups will be added to the CWG website, including summaries and presentations. The status of the groups is shown below:

Subcommittee / Task Force	Members	Status	Action Items
Recreation User Group	Voglers Rabago L.Martin Bennett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting on 11/30 Orgs represented – LOST, QCC, TRAL, IMBA, ATA, BTA, EVBCH, CWG Heard from Paul Burghard of TNF re: NEPA and plan submission Each group provided status of plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete proposals and data assembly for submission to RCP Continue coordination with TNF Meet again 2/10/16 CWG Task Force requesting meeting with TNF Travel Mgmt. staff
Historic Preservation	N. Vogler Rabago L. Martin Julianna Brutsche	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requested cost data from RCP for stack options & building rehab Next meeting not set 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chamber pursuing grant and funding options Continue to develop ideas for re-use Continue to research historic designation
Community Investment	Wittig B. Vogler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RCP conducting internal discussions re: CWG proposals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set next meeting for early 2016
Community Monitoring	Bennett, Fendley, Wittig, Siegwarth, Martins, Rowell, Gaudet	Not established yet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss and organize at 12/9 CWG meeting, per McKeon Confirm members
Conservation Lands	Gaudet	Not established yet	

Update on Queen Creek Monitoring Wells

Vicky Peacey – Resolution Copper Company

Casey McKeon is coordinating the efforts for the discharge permit for Queen Creek. In her absence Vicky Peacey provided an update, saying that several locations for monitor wells have been identified. These could be installed in February. One is on Martinez Ranch and one on the Castleberry property, both south of US 60. It would take a few weeks to install the wells, then

baseline conditions can be established over the next 8 months to a year. Thereafter, monitoring would likely occur quarterly. Peacey suggested that it would be good to start the community monitoring program for these 2 sites, probably in mid- to late-January. If the CWG wants to select a group to do the sampling, Resolution will pay for it and hire a specialist to perform the sampling with independence from Resolution's sampling and oversight by the group's subcommittee. Typically, different laboratories will have slightly different results. The company can obtain samples and this subcommittee can also independently get samples, and then compare them. This would be similar to efforts undertaken by Rio Tinto at other mines.

A CWG member asked for clarification on whether there will also be sampling downstream of the tailings site. Peacey confirmed that there will be, noting that this is just a small start on an overall monitoring program. The facilitators will work to pull together the first meeting of this subcommittee in mid- to late-January 2016.

Visual Simulations

Tony Coggan, Truescape

John Godec introduced Tony Coggan of Truescape. He said that the appearance of the tailings pile has always been a concern of this group and the community at large. Truescape has already done some work in the area in evaluating viewpoints. We can review and discuss these tonight.

Tony Coggan told the CWG that Truescape is in the business of producing "survey-grade simulations", and everything they do is based on facts. They are currently building a base model of the Resolution mining plan that was submitted to the U.S. Forest Service, integrating it into the topography. Visualizations are a tool to help people visualize the tailings and other facilities.

As an example of the kind of products they will be preparing for this project he showed a simulated 3-D animation of how the tailings will evolve over 40 years, as viewed from a location on East Hewitt Station Road.

Coggan said that Truescape has created two series of photo simulations. These represent how people actually see landscapes, replicating the field of vision, which cannot really be represented by normal photographs. The philosophy is to interpret landscapes and facilities as a 'worst case' from locations that people see the most or are considered sensitive viewpoints in some way. A team of photographers and a surveyor from Truescape assess and document viewing locations. The simulations are then constructed based on data provided by the project staff, in this case Frank Deal, Resolution's tailings engineer.

To demonstrate the accuracy of the simulations, Coggan showed some examples of projects they have worked on, showing first their simulations and then the 'as-built' photographs. He also showed photosimulations of the tailings at year 45 from Charlotte Street in Queen Valley, as a spatial model and as constructed, as it would appear after revegetation. The group agreed that the Queen Valley simulation that was done is the best and correct one to be used to represent the look of the tailings pile.

Truescape is working on another series of simulations from the Arizona Trail on Montana Mountain, which Arizona Trail Association representatives helped to select. This simulation indicates that the tailings would not actually be seen from this location. Kami Ballard asked that the CWG help select additional viewpoints to simulate, keeping in mind that the number of viewpoints to be included cannot be unlimited because of cost. She asked the group to decide if it want a 'Trueview' (photograph simulation) or a computerized rendering. Coggan said they would be preparing a 3D model with a flyover, but to produce an animated simulation that would be accurate from every possible viewpoint would be cost-prohibitive.

Godec asked how the accuracy for a facility that will be in operation for 40 years can be assured through a photo simulation. Frank Deal responded that Resolution knows what the precedent is from other mines tailings facilities and completed revegetation protocols. The height is limited by the physics of the amount of tailings it needs to hold.

Regarding a viewpoint from the crest of Gonzales Pass, several CWG members said that this location represents an "aha moment" for drivers, so recommended that the number of drivers and visitors who would see it justifies the selection of this point for a simulation. Some members were concerned about the credibility and acceptability of the simulations to the community at large, and suggested that it will be important to have an explanation of why viewpoints were or were not selected. Godec asked the group members for their recommendations for viewpoints to be simulated or rendered.

Locations for simulated photos suggested by consensus of the CWG include the following:

- US 60, Gonzales Pass, MP 219
- Boyce Thompson Arboretum, either in parking lot or on main trail
- Pickett Post House (in future)
- Arizona Trail crossing of Forest Road 293
- Arizona Trail at Barnett Camp (about 3 miles north)
- Arizona Trail south of US60 near Pickett Post trail
- Superior town, Hill Street at 177
- Superior on Ray Road
- Superior Highlands Phase 3
- Airport landing strip
- Forest Road 172, ½ mile north of 357
- Hewitt Station Road residences adjacent to tailings (Matthews house)
- Coming down 177 from Kearny and Globe/Miami (westbound)
- US 60 westbound at MP 226 to 228
- Forest Road 650 on top
- Overhead flyover of tailings footprint

Kami Ballard suggested that a complete 'Trueview' might not be needed, but Truescape would start with the visualization using the spatial model to see if it warrants further analysis, based on whether the tailings facility is likely to be seen from any given location. The group agreed that this would be a good approach.

It was suggested that the footprint of the tailings is a very important consideration to most people, because the area is huge. It will also be important for people to understand the revegetation process and timeline, as some may be thinking of other mines that were not revegetated or revegetated very late in their construction.

A CWG member told the group that she happened to attend an Asian Festival in Scottsdale, and was approached by many people who visit the Copper Triangle region who were very concerned about where the tailings would be and what it would look like. She said that people she talked to had a number of questions about Apache use of the Oak Flat area, as well, which she answered, noting that often visitors are not welcome at traditional ceremonies.

Several questions and comments by the group included the following:

- Will there be simulations of other views such as the mine shaft, the East Plant, etc.?
 - Yes, but Truescape is doing the tailings first.
- How far up Forest Road 172 would the tailings be visible from?
 - A local resident responded that it would come into view when one drives beyond the power lines.
- Is a pipeline bridge still included to the tailings site in the mine plan of operations?
 - At one point this was proposed, but probably is not needed now.
- How will these simulations be disseminated to the public?
 - There are many options for this. Resolution can put them on their website. The CWG might add these photo simulations to its own website -- SuperiorAZCWG.org. They could be installed on tablets so staff and CWG members can take them for groups to look at. There will likely be public meetings planned. They may be used in the Forest Service scoping process. Coggan showed an example of a public presentation prepared for an oil project in Canada.

CWG Planning for 2016

Godec asked if the group would like to invite the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) to speak with them in January, as the department has offered. He summarized the study that was done, according to ADHS. They did a drive-by survey, met with residents, conducted a health assessment, and found no health concerns. There was concern about lead, and free lead screening was offered this summer; out of those who signed up and followed through with testing, all came back below the levels of concern, indicating that no lead problems were apparent. A CWG member pointed out that the state was very particular about who could be tested, only including children and nursing mothers but no elderly people. Based on this, the group decided that they would probably not learn much more from a presentation by the department, and decided to decline the offer of a presentation. Jim Schenck told the group that Resolution is considering doing an independent health analysis based on historical data. A complicating factor is establishing what the baseline really is.

The group discussed the topics they might want to explore next year. Godec reviewed the topics that had been mentioned in the past, and asked which of these are still relevant. The CWG suggested that they would like to hear more about the following topics:

- Property values effects from mining activities
- Impacts to the community of Safford from Freeport McMoRan mining projects, particularly regarding construction impacts and mitigation
- Forest Service representatives to provide updates and information about the Resolution Copper Project Environmental Impact Statement
- Continue the CWG Scoping comments discussion

Jim Schenck told the group that the Notice of Intent to prepare the EIS will likely be published in early January, and scoping will start in March. It was mentioned that scheduling any activities in Queen Valley after April 1 will be met with criticism, due to the departure of winter visitors.

Public Questions & Comments

A visitor said he was born and raised in Miami, and offered that there have been numerous visitors and people who think the tailings there are an amazing and interesting sight. He noted that local people accept the tailings as part of the community. As the tailings grow slowly over time people do get used to it. He felt that even if this is a “nightmare” for people today due to extreme changes in the current landscape, future generations will not notice it and will think differently about it.

A visitor from Claypool asked what the term “scorched-earth” view means, and was told that it is a reference to a view in which nothing has been modeled on top of it, such as vegetation or buildings; it therefore represents a worst-case scenario. He inquired whether Resolution would be performing revegetation during the whole tailings development period, so there would never be a ‘scorched-earth’ view. Resolution responded that this is their intent and plan.

Next Meeting

The next CWG Meeting will be:
5:30 PM
Wednesday, January 13, 2016
Superior Chamber of Commerce

Lynn Martin announced to the group that there will be a cleanup on JF Ranch on Saturday, January 16, starting at 7:00 AM. Footprints Matters and Resolution are sponsoring it; last year there were 400 volunteers. Anyone wishing to participate should meet at The Dyke (the dam off Forest Road 357).