

September 9, 2020
MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Attendees

Community Working Group members present:

Pam Bennett – Queen Valley Community Liaison
Todd Pryor – Town of Superior
Jim Schenck – Rebuild Superior and Legends of Superior Trail
Hank Gutierrez - Superior Copper Alliance
Fred Gaudet – Arizona Trail Association
Arlynn Godinez – Superior Unified School District Board / Maricopa County
Mila Besich – Town of Superior
Fernando Shipley – Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center Board
Silvia Werre – Top of the World
Bruce Wittig – Queen Valley Water Department, Fire Department
Ricardo Provencio – United Superiorites
Tweedy Armitage – Superior Historical Society
Jeff McCormick – Town of Kearny
Lynne Nemeth – Boyce Thompson Arboretum
Bruce Wittig – Queen Valley Fire Department
JoAnn Besich – Superior Optimist Club
Rick Cartier – Superior Chamber of Commerce

Community Working Group members not present:

Pamela Rabago – Superior Chamber of Commerce
Karen Kitchayan Jones – San Carlos Apache Tribe
Tino Flores – Copper Corridor Economic Development Coalition
Anna Flores – Town of Kearny (retired from Town of Kearny and CWG)
Sylvia Kerlock – Town of Winkelman
Richard Matthews – Queen Valley Water Board
Cecil Fendley – Queen Valley Water Board
Tiffany Rowell – Superior community
Lynn Martin – JF, JI Ranch
George Martin – JF, JI Ranch
Cathy Melvin – Gila County
Anthony Huerta – Town of Superior
Mayor Bracamonte – Town of Winkelman
Gloria Ruiz – Town of Winkelman
Jeff Bunkleemann – Central Arizona College

Resolution Copper Company:

Hesston Klenk – Communities Manager
Caitlin Pierce – Communities & Social Performance
Greg Field – Project Director for Project Execution

Facilitators – Godec, Randall & Associates (GRA):

John Godec, Debra Duerr

Public Visitors: The public was not able to attend this online meeting.

Housekeeping

Lynn Nemeth reported that it's been an exciting week at the Boyce Thompson Arboretum. They rescued a coyote and had 3 snakes – tiger, black, diamondback rattlers. Good news is that the new Wallace Garden will open October 1. There will be tours, limited to 10 people, who must wear masks. There will be “elegant box lunches”. It's also been a very busy short week for the town of Superior. Queen Valley Fire Department thanked Resolution Copper for the recent funds supporting their EFC program.

Update on #9 Shaft Development

Greg Field, Resolution Copper

John Godec said the CWG has had questions over time about what's going on with mine development, and Greg Field has been invited to update the group about that. Field introduced himself, saying that he's a mining engineer who joined Resolution 18 months ago and previously worked in Mongolia and other Rio Tinto mines around the world.

On a personal note, Field said that a Resolution employee had a heart attack last week, and he offered sincere thanks to the Superior emergency services personnel who ensured that the man got to the hospital and received immediate care – they saved a life.

Field showed a graphic comparing the old Magma mine and the Resolution deposit, which is much deeper. Shaft #10 was completed in 2015, and they are now rehabilitating the #9 shaft to deepen it; there are 216 feet to go until it breaks into Shaft #10. This will provide two means of egress for people working under ground. All the old mine workings have been completely sealed off. He described how the shaft is dug and protected.

He talked about the underground characterization project, with their partner Cementation. He showed a graphic of geomorphology, geotechnical domains, and faults. Resolution will be doing tests to evaluate the block caving, faults, rock characteristics, etc. Previous work at other mines had shown that the geology wasn't exactly what they expected, and, consequently, the mines need to be redesigned to accommodate these conditions. The characterization involves drilling out from the shafts into the ore body to evaluate the geology under various stresses. Most of these holes will be horizontal to the ore body since they already have many vertical holes. This will include about 15,000 feet of drilling at a depth of about 6,700 feet. He illustrated how the tunnels will fan out from the shafts. In comparing this mine to other deep mines around the world, Field predicts that this one will have similar challenges and characteristics.

He showed a video of the new electric substation that has been installed at the bottom of the shaft; the area is completely dry due to the new drainage system. There are 3 air conditioning chillers and also dust filtering units and fire suppression systems.

Greg said he is very proud of the work the team has done, and he hopes that the CWG will be able to visit the mine when they are able, and Resolution can introduce members to the team.

The group was very much in favor of this invitation. Field noted that this is a remarkable ore body, and the need for copper is increasing around the world. In the most hopeful scenario, Resolution may be able to begin mining in 5 years, if all goes well.

CWG members had the following questions and comments:

- Can any of these areas be accessed from #5 or #7 shafts?
 - No
- Do you expect any complications from the faults? The Magma Mine had problems with faults.
 - There is no evidence to think any of the faults in the new ore body are active or have shown any movement, but they will be evaluated. The drilling has gotten through several faults successfully so far. They should not create any problems for productivity or safety. Resolution has worked with miners who worked at Magma to gain knowledge from them. In the deeper mine the stresses are higher and have greater clamping potential.
- Is there any increase in water coming in at deeper shaft depths?
 - No. they are getting about 12 gallons per minute (gpm) into #9 with a maximum of 25 gpm. The water seems to be dropping off and this is a good thing. It's important to remember that the water balance is still the same with both shafts. They are pumping out 550 gpm. They do expect to hit water in some areas with the characterization.
- When will you be sinking any more shafts?
 - They will be starting on #11 in early 2022. This will be a big 35-foot/11-meter diameter shaft so it will be a large project. The primary reason for this larger size is for better ventilation. There will not be dust because it's so wet.
- Where will #11 be?
 - On a small terrace near the boom gate, near the other shafts. The #9 and #10 shafts are located about 250 yards apart, and it will be 850 yards between them and #11.
- How many shafts will there be in total?
 - The current thinking is for 3. There may be a chance that one more will be installed for ventilation. This would not occur for many years, if the mine expands in future.
- Will a conveyor be used for transport or will the Never Sweat Tunnel be used?
 - That is an option. A conveyor can also be installed from the Never Sweat level to the mine, or there could be a conveyor directly from the mine to the processor.
- Will the new dewatering system be at the bottom of #10?
 - Yes, water will be pumped from the bottom all the way to the Never Sweat level.
- What happens next?
 - The breakthrough of #9 is the key milestone coming up in the near future. This will hopefully occur the first week of October. The next milestone would be to award a contract for surface construction. The underground characterization project is continuing. There will be a new underground workshop in 2021, and Resolution is working toward completing the diminishing pillars by the end of 2022.

Recreation User Group Update

Godec said that the RUG had met this morning. He reminded the group that we had received a letter from Imerys regarding the Castleberry Campground. This was discussed further at the RUG meeting, and Godec shared an email from Tom Hawk that reiterated some of their

concerns. The CWG asked for clarification about this note, and Hesston explained the ideas and conversations that have taken place between Resolution and Imerys about some possible mitigation measures. The RUG decided to proceed with their plans as before and wait to see if the Forest Service has any reactions or directions stemming from the Imerys letter. It was felt that Imerys does not have standing to interfere with the Environmental Impact Statement process. Details on mitigation will be worked out between Resolution, the Forest Service, and Imerys. Meanwhile, recreation in the area will only increase. The campground is located on Resolution's private property, so they could build a campground there even without the EIS or Forest Service, so Imerys could be impacted anyway. The Forest Service also stated that they are not interested in having a campground on public land. RUG members emphasized that the campground, and in fact the entire RUG trail plan, will serve to better manage recreation in the region than the current situation. Klenk pointed out that most comments on the DEIS were very supportive of the campground and the only main question was whether Resolution would fund it, which they have committed to.

Community Monitoring Task Force Update

Godec told the group that there will be a conversation with the Community Monitoring Task Force on Monday, September 14 to discuss future monitoring activities, which may include sampling at the Skunk Camp tailings site. The next well sampling of current wells is scheduled for September 23.

Public Questions & Comments

Due to restrictions for online meetings, the public was not able to attend this meeting.

Next Meeting

An update reclamation of the old tailings and West Plant site will be the topic of the October meeting.

Wednesday, October 14, 2020

6:00pm