



## YAVAPAI COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### RESOLUTION NO.

#### **Yavapai County Request to the Bureau of Land Management Regarding the Proposed Mining Operation in the Skull Valley Area**

**WHEREAS**, the Kirkland Mining Company proposes to excavate the stockpiles of volcanic tuff materials from the old “Stone Mine” or “Tuffa Mine” in the Skull Valley area in Yavapai County; and

**WHEREAS**, the mining company proposed the project and provided a mining plan of operations (*Stockpile Removal Plan of Operations*) to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Hassayampa Field Office on April 21, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, the mining plan of operations is for the removal of 47,000 tons (about 42,000 cubic yards) of material from a 2.6 acre area; and

**WHEREAS**, the BLM has a “categorical exclusion” to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 from conducting a detail environmental analysis for: disposal of mineral materials in amounts not exceeding 50,000 cubic yards or disturbing more than 5 acres, except under any extraordinary circumstance; and

**WHEREAS**, at least three of the U.S. Department of the Interior’s extraordinary circumstances apply to the proposed mining operation, which may:

- 2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety.
- 2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].
- 2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks; and

**WHEREAS**, if any of the extraordinary circumstances apply, an environmental assessment (EA) or an environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors finds it suitable to lend its support to citizens of Skull Valley and surrounding area in Yavapai County who could be affected by dust, the health effects of unknown airborne substances from the material to be excavated, the effects on ground water quantity and quality, and erosion from the proposed mining operation.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors calls upon the BLM Hassayampa Field Office in the Phoenix District to conduct a detailed environmental analysis and require that an EA be prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, that includes public involvement and review, in order to address citizen concerns before approving the project or to determine whether an EIS is required for the project.

**Approved and Adopted by the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors**

**this 1st day of June, 2015.**

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Craig L. Brown, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Ana Wayman-Trujillo, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND DETERMINED TO BE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF  
PERFORMANCE OF DUTY OF THE YAVAPAI COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

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Jack Fields, Deputy County Attorney