

# Conversation Contents

## [Update] Kirkland Mining Company (Skull Valley) 3809 Plan of Operation submittal

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**From:** scave@blm.gov  
**Sent:** Tue Apr 18 2017 14:03:50 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** cmclaugh@blm.gov, dphilbin@blm.gov, scave@blm.gov, bbuttazoni@blm.gov, cdcarter@blm.gov, rhawes@blm.gov  
**Subject:** [Update] Kirkland Mining Company (Skull Valley) 3809 Plan of Operation submittal

JUST FYI: This meeting has been moved to the fire ready room, same time. Thank you!  
-Shelby

### Kirkland Mining Company (Skull Valley) 3809 Plan of Operation submittal

Please join us Tuesday, April 18th, at 1:30 pm. Kirkland Mining Company will submit their mining Plan of Operation and associated cultural and resource studies.

#### Agenda:

1. Submit the mining Plan of Operation, cultural and biological resource reports, and GIS data
2. Discuss the mining Plan of Operation review process and timeline, including presentation and site visit after the Plan of Operations is accepted
3. Discuss NEPA review process and timeline after the mining Plan of Operation is accepted

#### BACKGROUND:

BLM case: AZA-36808.

KMC is conducting mineral exploration in Sec28 of T13N, R4W, G&SRM, an area where mining activity has occurred since the late 1800s, though not for the past 20 years. Current mining activities are located near the town of Skull Valley in Yavapai County.

Since the first contacts from KMC in early 2015, multiple meetings and teleconferences have been held between KMC, their contractors, and BLM Hassayampa Field Office personnel. The initial proposal centered on developing the claims for zeolites (as absorbents) which are in the tuff. Following material and chemical analysis for which KMC paid, the target use was changed to pozzolan (concrete additive).

When residents of Skull Valley became aware of the proposal, controversy began to grow. Local residents established a web site and held community meetings opposing the proposed activity. Among the concerns raised was the possibility of the occurrence of the mineral erionite, which is a carcinogenic zeolite (similar to asbestos) that has been identified as occurring at another location in the area. Concerns also included dust, traffic, effects on local wells and a potential riparian area.

KMC withdrew their 3600 mineral materials sale application and submitted a 3809 Notice on September 11, 2015, to conduct exploration activities in the stockpile area of previous mining disturbance. Beginning in Spring 2016, KMC conducted exploration drilling and removed a nearly 1,000 ton bulk sample, as allowed in the regulations, to provide to potential vendors for their physical and marketability testing. The results of these tests (the "mineral validity report") were provided to BLM for analysis for our determination as to the locatability of the material. The BLM ruled that pozzolan is a locatable mineral February 27th, 2017.

When Tue Apr 18, 2017 1:30pm – 3pm Mountain Time - Arizona

Where BLM-AZ PDO Main Conference Room B ([map](#))

Video call [https://plus.google.com/hangouts/\\_/doi.gov/scave](https://plus.google.com/hangouts/_/doi.gov/scave)

Who

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