



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Southwestern
Region

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Date: January 22, 2009

Dear Residents and Interested Persons,

The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, is developing an environmental cleanup plan for the Workman Creek Uranium Mines (Site) under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). The Site is located on the Pleasant Valley Ranger District of the Tonto National Forest, Gila County, approximately 21 miles south of Young, Arizona.

We prepared an Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (EE/CA) report to identify and evaluate several removal action (cleanup) alternatives to remove heavy metal contamination associated with past mining activities. The recommended cleanup alternative is (1) to remove contaminated soils from the day-use areas and place them in a consolidation cell, (2) re-route the All-Terrain Vehicle traffic, and (3) close the adits.

We also prepared a Fact Sheet which summarizes the background information and the cleanup alternatives to be considered for the Site. This Fact Sheet is enclosed.

If you are interested in providing input and comments, the EE/CA and the Administrative Record are available for review at the Tonto National Forest Supervisor's Office (2324 E. McDowell Road, Phoenix, AZ) and the Pleasant Valley Ranger District Office (Young, AZ). Please contact **Anne Fischer (602) 225-5389** to schedule an appointment or if you have any questions. The EE/CA is also available on www.fs.fed.us/tonto.

Public input and comments will be accepted until close of business on March 1, 2009. Following the comment period, the Forest Service will consider your input in selecting the final cleanup alternative. The final cleanup alternative will be documented in a Removal Action Approval Memorandum.

Sincerely,

/s/ Corbin L. Newman Jr

CORBIN L. NEWMAN, JR.
Regional Forester

Enclosure: *Fact Sheet for the Workman Creek Uranium Mines*

Cc: Jerry Mastel, Anne Fischer, Maria McGaha, Paige Rockett, Administrative Record

