**Examples of Great Public Input / Comments**

**Issue**: **Truck Traffic**
**The Mining Plan of Operation calls for up to 85 truckload trips per day (unclear whether this is round trips or one way) PLUS 15 water trucks and other ancillary traffic.**

1. Increased truck traffic on Iron Springs Road (estimated at 85 truck trips per day) will impact local residents and tourists.
2. Increased truck traffic on Williamson Valley Road, Pioneer Parkway, Willow Creek Road, Outer Loop Road, and Highway 89 North (through Chino Valley and Pauline) and Highway 89 South (through Peeples Valley, Yarnell, and Congress) will impact a great many homes, neighborhoods, and schools.
3. Traffic going into Prescott is already dangerous because of limited passing zones and high speed motorists.
4. The local volunteer fire department has responded to many accidents in this area, and slow haul trucks will increase the amount of traffic incidences along the two-lane road for twenty+ miles in both directions.
5. This increased traffic will also impact the ability of emergency personnel to respond to local non-mine related emergencies by slowing traffic conditions in general between Skull Valley and Prescott.

<u>Proposed mitigation</u>

1. Haul truck trips should be limited; water trucks should be limited.
2. An additional lane should be constructed for twenty miles in each direction, or a passing lane constructed to relieve traffic congestion
3. The Kirkland Mine should provide support the volunteer fire department equivalent to the degree that they are increasing local traffic-related accident potential.
4. The Kirkland Mine should fund all helicopter responses to local accidents because of delayed/slowed traffic conditions along Iron Springs Road.
5. Mine hours of operation should be limited to normal business hours of Mon-Fri 8:00 - 5:00

**Issue: Groundwater**
**The Mining Plan of Operation calls for use of 35,000 gallons of water per day to be used for dust abatement. This is roughly the equivalent water usage of 350 people, yet homes in the immediate area have already experienced well water shortages.**

1. The current well on mine property is drawing shallow groundwater. This groundwater is limited, and a drawdown would affect the wells of local residents.

<u>Proposed mitigation</u>

1. Kirkland Mine should be required to drill a deeper well into the underlying fossil aquifer for use on mine property. The idea of using water trucks to supplement groundwater shortages only increases traffic and externalizes the water footprint of the mine.

**Issue: Air Quality**

1. Dust generation is the primary concern of community members. Temporary dust abatement measures are included in the mine plan of operations, specifically using water to keep areas of mine operations moist. There are two problems with this approach—1.) the use of groundwater to reduce dust and 2.) the long-term impacts of micro-particle generation. Micro-particles generated through the scraping and crushing processes may be temporarily abated by spraying water, but after they dry, the wind will cause these to be airborne as long as the mine is in operation and for decades thereafter.
2. Pollution from heavy equipment and from trucks in this valley also increase air pollution. The amount of pollution generated, while not significant in terms of other populated areas, will increase local air contamination by many times.
3.

<u>Proposed mitigation</u>

1. Air monitors should be in place throughout mine operations and monitored by mine operators and BLM agents. The crushers can be covered instead of open. Trucks must be covered. Vacuum mechanisms may be employed during operations to capture dust from the crushing. Surface sealants can be applied to dirt roadways on mine property, as long as these do not contaminate local waterways.
2. Mine operations should be limited so that fewer trucks and heavy equipment are operating, and thus limit the amount of pollution that is generated in the area.
3. A thorough meteorological study is needed for BLM to assess wind patterns across the region, as well as localized micro wind conditions observed in the immediate area.

**Issue**: **Noise**

1. Heavy equipment used to extract and crush the equipment will generate substantial noise impacts for residents, livestock, and wildlife.
2. Increased truck traffic will impact residents along the transportation route from the mine site to the destination towns.

<u>Proposed mitigation</u>

1. Noise barriers such as berms, walls, vegetation soundbreaks, and other features can be established or put in place to reduce noise pollution from leaving the project area. Operations should be limited to normal working hours.

2. Truck traffic should be limited to a minimum number of trips per day. Traffic should be limited to normal working hours.

**Issue**: **Surface Water**

**Issue**: **Health and safety**

**Etc!**