

Kirkland Mine Major Issues

The **DEADLINE** for Public Comment is **July 25, 2017**

Much more information is available at www.kirklandmineforum.org

1. **Heavy truck traffic** on Iron Springs Road, Williamson Valley Road, Outer Loop, Highway 89 through Peeples Valley and Yarnell. Up to 85 truckloads loaded with mine material PLUS 85 returning empty trucks PLUS up to 18 trucks of water PLUS ancillary support trucks are expected to travel North and South on Iron Springs road PER DAY. This means a truck roughly every 3 minutes, some heading North to Williamson Valley and others heading South through Yarnell. (Pg 25). It should be noted that the Yavapai County Sheriff has no training or capability to monitor or enforce commercial trucking regulations.
2. **Extended hours of operation.** Operation is planned for 40 to 80 hours per week during daylight hours (Pg 13), and is expected to operate for 40 years. This is an issue because the Noise and Traffic problems are not limited to a Mon - Fri 40 hour schedule.
3. **Water usage.** The Mining Plan of Operation calls for 35,000 gallons of water to be used PER DAY for dust control. Some water will be pumped from a well on adjacent private property (20 gallons per minute), and some will be trucked in from other private wells. The Plan of Operation does not specify location of the "other wells". The private homes immediately adjacent to the Mine have, over the past 20 years, experienced severe problems with wells dropping production and even going dry.
4. **Air quality.** The crushed rock material being extracted in this Open Pit mine is primarily composed of silica and alumina. Silica dust is carcinogenic.
5. **Safety.** The Skull Valley Volunteer Fire Department is mentioned in the Plan for emergency response services. Though staffed with dedicated volunteers, this organization does not have capability to respond to accidents at the Mine, and is very limited in response capability on Iron Springs road.

Other considerations to be aware of:

- **Taxes.** The Mine is located on BLM land, with minimal property improvements on the adjacent private land (J Johns, storage buildings, break room), there will be VERY minimal property taxes contributed to the local school district or to Yavapai County.
- **Inadequate Public Process.** The BLM is required by law to use a public process. Their efforts have been wholly inadequate relative to the scope of impact across Yavapai County. And now there is a July 25 deadline as the ONLY opportunity for public input.