

# Conversation Contents

Skull Valley - Fw: Thursday 5-21-2015 Meeting

**"Hawes, David" <rhawes@blm.gov>**

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**From:** "Hawes, David" <rhawes@blm.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed May 20 2015 07:41:38 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Patrick Putnam <pputnam@blm.gov>  
**Subject:** Skull Valley - Fw: Thursday 5-21-2015 Meeting

Patrick: FYI, our meeting with Kirkland Mining Company regarding the proposed Skull Valley operation is Thursday at 10:00 a.m. Tom, Dave, and I will meet with them and their consultants regarding our requirements for the EA that we've determined is necessary.  
— Rem

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <[areta@kirklandmining.com](mailto:areta@kirklandmining.com)>  
Date: Mon, May 18, 2015 at 9:28 AM  
Subject: RE: Thursday 5-21-2015 Meeting / Please everyone confirm  
To: "Hawes, David" <[rhawes@blm.gov](mailto:rhawes@blm.gov)>  
Cc: David Eddy <[deddy@blm.gov](mailto:deddy@blm.gov)>, Thomas Bickauskas <[tbickaus@blm.gov](mailto:tbickaus@blm.gov)>, Fred Brost <[fbrost@cox.net](mailto:fbrost@cox.net)>, [cobeyhampton@yahoo.com](mailto:cobeyhampton@yahoo.com), Steven Nowaczyk <[snowaczyk@ninyoandmoore.com](mailto:snowaczyk@ninyoandmoore.com)>, Narayanan Neithalath <[Narayanan.Neithalath@asu.edu](mailto:Narayanan.Neithalath@asu.edu)>, Mark Zouvas <[mark@zouvas.com](mailto:mark@zouvas.com)>, Peter Zouvas <[pszouvas@yahoo.com](mailto:pszouvas@yahoo.com)>

Hello All:

My flight arrives at 7:45 I would like to set our meeting for 10:00 AM on Thursday morning. We will have attending from our team: Fred Brost, Cobey Hampton, and myself. We are in the process of confirming if someone from EPG can attend as well. Steve from Ninyo and Moore is to send me contact their information so I can connect directly with them. I would like to invite one of our Professor Narayanan Neithalath from ASU to the meeting. Professor Neithalath has work with the material for two years and can bring light on the subject of toxicity. Once I confirm with EPG and ASU I will let you know.

Plan on us being there regardless at 10:00 on 5-21-2015. If everyone can please confirm I would appreciate it.

Thank you

Best Regards,  
Areta Zouvas  
Kirkland Mining Company  
Vice President  
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San Diego, CA. 92103  
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On Fri, May 15, 2015 at 2:39 PM, Hawes, David <[rhawes@blm.gov](mailto:rhawes@blm.gov)> wrote:

Areta: I'll call you in minute, but yes, last night there were more 100 people -- probably the most polite and good-natured 100 people I've ever witnessed oppose a project, but there wasn't one supporter of the project in the room. I told them that we have not finished reviewing and analyzing the your plan of operation, at which time I will determine the level of environmental review required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) -- a Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment (EA), or Environmental Impact Statement. BLM has neither approved nor denied the plan at this time.

About halfway through the meeting, Yavapai County Supervisor Rowle Simmons who attended the meeting said that he would bring this issue to the Board of Supervisors and call upon the BLM to do a full environmental analysis. That alone would be enough to require an EA. At the same time, due to the fact that the proposal already meets two of the "extraordinary circumstances" under NEPA, I will be making the determination that an EA is required. (Those extraordinary circumstances are: 1) may have controversial environmental effects and 2) may have uncertain or potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.) I regret that the EA will be an additional expense and amount of time required to assess the project.

Keep in mind that a Categorical Exclusion or EA is the environmental analysis of a project upon which a decision to approve or not is based; it is not a decision document. A decision on a project comes after an environmental analysis.

— Rem Hawes  
Hassayampa Field Manager  
BLM Phoenix District  
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On Fri, May 15, 2015 at 1:29 PM, <[areta@kirklandmining.com](mailto:areta@kirklandmining.com)> wrote:

Rem,

I received a call from Gary Shafer, who is the gentleman who ran and operated the mine for 8 years when it was a kitty litter mine. Gary informed me that there was about a 100 people at this meeting, and the majority was against our plan to reopen the mine.

It was also brought to my attention **that you may have stated** that you will not be approving our MPO for the removal of the stockpile. **I do not like to listen to second hand information regarding "he said, she said". especially when I don't believe you would put yourself in that position.**

I would very much like to discuss what occurred at the meeting , your view on what we need to do to continue moving forward. We are not looking for a fight our intention is to be a part of the community and build local economy. Under no circumstance do we intend to back down. KMC is spending a tremendous amount of money, time, in testing, research and development to ensure the best way to move forward with a ecological environmentally friendly plan. If the neighbor's want to put their money where their mouth is terrific!! Otherwise, when it comes to developing our asset we will not be intimidated, and threatened by people who are misrepresenting the fact's and making false assumption's. We appreciate the continued time and consideration you and your staff has shown us throughout the years and look forward to coming up with a solution that will be suitable for all involved.

Thank you again, for taking the time to attend the meeting.

Best Regards,

Areta Zouvas  
Kirkland Mining Company  
Vice President

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