



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
3636 N CENTRAL AVENUE, SUITE 900
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85012-1939

September 7, 2018

Final Environmental Impact Statement
Ray Mine Tailings Storage Facility: Pinal County, Arizona
File No. SPL-2011-01005-MWL

REGULATORY DIVISION

Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your review is the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Ray Mine tailings storage facility (TSF) project. This document describes the environmental effects associated with issuance of a permit by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act that would allow for the proposed construction, operation and closure of a new tailings storage facility in the Ripsey Wash drainage area located about ten miles northwest of the community of Kearny in Pinal County, Arizona. The proposed facility would ultimately contain an estimated 750 million tons of fill and tailings generated by future production from the Ray Concentrator at the Ray Mine, which is owned and operated by ASARCO LLC (Asarco).

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is the lead agency in the preparation of this final EIS. The draft EIS was issued for public comment in January 2016. This final EIS contains responses to all comments received during the public review period (see Appendix L). In addition, where necessary, revisions were made to the EIS to reflect new or corrected information in response to comments received and updated project information received from ASARCO. Revisions to the EIS are highlighted by a line in the left margin of the page. Any further comments received during the 30-day review (waiting) period for this final EIS will be addressed in the Record of Decision (ROD) for this project. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will become part of the public record for this project.

The comment period will extend for 30 days from the publication of the Notice of Availability of the final EIS in the *Federal Register*, and comments must be received by the Corps no later than October 8, 2018. It is important that you clearly articulate your concerns and contentions, and include your name, address, telephone number, your organization; and "Ray Mine Tailings Storage Facility Final EIS" and the file number (SPL-2011-01005-MWL) in the subject line of your comments. The FEIS can also be found online at:

<https://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Projects-Programs/>

Please address written comments to Michael Langley, Senior Project Manager, at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Arizona-Nevada Office, 3636 N. Central Avenue, Suite 900, Phoenix, Arizona 85012-1939; telephone (602) 230-6953 or email comments to: Michael.W.Langley@usace.army.mil.

Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Langley
Senior Project Manager