



**ARIZONA
ROCK
PRODUCTS
ASSOCIATION**

April 30, 2013

Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
US House of Representatives
H-323, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
Office of the Democratic Leader
H-204, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

RE: H.R. 687 Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2013

Dear Speaker Boehner and Leader Pelosi:

The Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2013 is employment creation legislation that could create more than 3,700 jobs for the region and have a \$61 billion impact on our state. That said, the federal government keeps standing in the way of this vital economic boon for rural Arizona. In addition, the bill would give the government more than 5,500 acres of land from Resolution, in exchange for about 2,400 acres of copper-rich Federal land.

The Arizona Rock Products Association (ARPA) would appreciate your efforts to bring jobs, wealth and strategic materials to Arizona and the nation through your support of H.R. 687: Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2013. The passage of this legislation would not only employ thousands of Arizonans for decades, including members of our Association, but would also move the United States closer to becoming self-sufficient in its demand for copper, a metal integral to our nation's continued development and defense. ARPA strongly supports the project, land exchange and passage of this vital bill. By allowing the exchange of lands, this measure would secure the requisite lands necessary for Resolution Copper to develop this world-class ore body.

The Arizona Rock Products Association has been providing representation for 38 member companies involved with the production of aggregates, asphaltic concrete, ready mix concrete,

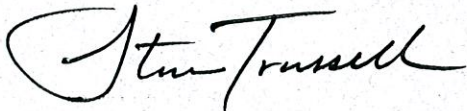
asphalt, lime products, and portland cement. ARPA members, include over 63 associate members providing related transportation, contracting, and consulting services many of which could be potentially employed by the Resolution project. ARPA supports the importance of mining in the State of Arizona and the benefits to our State's economy, jobs and products that add to the quality of our lives.

In 2011, Arizona copper mines produced nearly 800,000 tons of copper or 63 percent of the nation's copper production. Even with Arizona's significant copper production, the United States continues to be a net importer of copper and is becoming more and more dependent on other countries for this strategic metal. If we do not continue to develop our resources at home, we could find ourselves reliant upon copper from other nations in the same way we are now reliant upon other nations for rare earth minerals and crude oil. At its peak, the Resolution Copper Project will produce 25 to 30 percent of our nation's copper needs; thereby substantially reducing this great nation's needs for imported copper.

ARPA requests that you do everything possible to move this bill expeditiously through the process in the House and transmit it to the Senate.

On behalf of the Arizona Rock Products Association, we urge your support of this project, strategic minerals, a boost in the Arizona Economy, the creation of jobs and this vital industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Trussell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "S".

Steve Trussell
Executive Director