BORDER 2020 ARIZONA-SONORA MINING SYMPOSIUM
JOHN P. SCHAEFER CENTER FOR CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY LECTURE HALL
UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
1030 North Olive Road, Tucson, AZ 85721
JUNE 25, 2015[1]

BACKGROUND

Environmental issues related to mining in the 100 km U.S.-Mexico Region were discussed at the December 4, 2014 meeting of the Border 2020 Arizona-Sonora Workgroup meeting. The impetus for adding mining to the agenda came as a result of recent high profile mining related incidents, the prevalence of mining in the region, and the fact that mining issues cut across all five Border 2020 Task Forces (Air, Water, Materials Management and Clean Sites, Emergency Preparedness and Response, Enforcement). A key action item from the meeting was a commitment to convene expertise from a variety of federal, state and local agencies, industry, academia, and interested public to facilitate cross-cutting information, technology transfer and stakeholder dialogue. The workgroup co-chairs committed to symposia in the U.S. and Mexico.

OBJECTIVES

- Convene binational technical experts and policymakers from government, academia and industry to develop a common understanding of the regulatory structure, share best practices, and highlight innovative and emerging technologies.
- Develop recommendations for near-term best practices for mines and identify domestic and/or binational follow-up actions that government, academia, and industry can potentially implement (e.g., best practices for mitigation, monitoring QA/QC, sulfuric acid tanker car derailment emergency response training exercise, risk communication training).

PRELIMINARY DRAFT AGENDA

8:00 Gather/Registration

8:30 Welcome, Introductions and Why are we here? -- Background Information on Symposium
- Jeff Scott**,** U.S. EPA**,** Region 9
- Jorge A. Suilo Orozco, Federal Delegate for Sonora, SEMARNAT

9:00 Setting the Stage -- AZ/Sonora Mining Overarching Facts & Background Information
- Raina M. Maier/Mary Poulton, University of Arizona
- Francisco Molina, UNAM/Diana Meza, Universidad de Sonora

9:30 Roles and responsibilities and scope of authorities

Panelists will have 5 minutes to provide a quick overview of their authorities as related to mining and then participate in a facilitated discussion followed by Q&A/Discussion with audience members.

Moderator: TBD, ADEQ
- Jeff Scott, U.S. EPA**,** Region 9/Jorge A. Suilo Orozco, SEMARNAT
- TBD, ADEQ/Oscar Rene Leyva, CEDES
- Gilbert Anaya, IBWC/TBD, CONAGUA
- Floyd Gray, USGS/Jose Luis Lee, SGM

10:30 Break

10:45 Roles and responsibilities and scope of authorities (continued)

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[1] ***There will be an optional tour of Mission Mine (*4201 W Pima Mine Rd, Sahuarita, AZ 85629*) on Friday, June 26 that will be limited to 25 participants. Mexican colleagues will be given first priority***.

11:15 Communication and Engagement Issues and Opportunities

Panelists will provide overview of Federal, State and local structure (e.g., Incident Command System, SERC, LEPCs) followed by response from industry and NGO representatives as to how it works in reality and perspectives on ways to improve notification and overall communication. Q&A/Discussion with audience members will follow panel.

Moderator: Bill Jones, U.S. EPA

- Mark Howard, Arizona Office of Emergency Management
- Carlos Arrias, Proteccion Civil
- Victor Castillo, Grupo Mexico
- Stephanie Sklar, Sonoran Institute

LUNCH [on own – plenty of options within walking distance]

1:30 Technical and Operational Best Practices

Q&A/Discussion with audience members will follow case study presentations by panelists.

Moderator: John Hillenbrand, U.S. EPA

- TBD, Freeport-McMoran Mine
- TBD, Grupo Mexico
- TBD, Arizona Rock Products Association
- Bill Albright, Desert Research Institute

2:45 Emerging Research and Innovation

Q&A/Discussion with audience members will follow presentations by panelists.

Moderator: Raina M. Maier, University of Arizona or Francisco Molina, UNAM

- Dust
- Revegetation
- Sensors
- Acid Mine Drainage Treatment
- Ground Plume Treatment

4:00 Closeout Session with Panel Moderators: Discussion of Recommended Action Items/Next Steps

It is anticipated that there will be specific follow-up action items from regulators, Border 2020 Task Forces, industry and researchers. A second symposium in Mexico (TBD) will focus on action item implementation and follow-up on key questions and themes.

4:30 Adjourn

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