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Final

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## Rosemont sues county to speed permit decision

Mining company wants air-quality finding in 45 days; Pima officials say they have till May

By Tony Davis  
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Rosemont Copper is suing Pima County to speed up a decision on the air-quality permit for its proposed mine.

The lawsuit seeks a federal court order for the Pima County Department of Environmental Quality to decide within 45 days

whether to issue the permit. It's one of several permits the Rosemont Mine will need to operate.

The county DEQ proposed on Aug. 30 to issue the air-quality permit for the copper mine slated for the Santa Rita Mountains, about 30 miles southeast of Tucson. However, county officials will take public comments until

the end of November and say they have until May 2012 to make a final decision.

The mining company has now sued, charging that under federal laws, the county should have made its permit decision in December 2010 — 30 days after the county declared the company's permit application complete.

"The Pima County Department of Environmental Quality (PDEQ) has rules and regulations that it must enforce and rules and

regulations that it must follow," Rosemont Copper CEO Rod Pace said in a written statement. "Rosemont Copper is taking this legal action to ensure PDEQ follows the rules and regulations."

"Our action is, unfortunately, necessary to ensure the permit is not subjected to further delays."

County DEQ director Ursula Kramer said she is reviewing the suit with attorneys, but that her

See ROSEMONT, A4

## How US vets tips on terror attacks

Multibillion-dollar global network collects, assesses information

By Calvin Woodward and Kimberly Dozier  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — U.S. intelligence in the struggle against terrorism comes in many forms, maddeningly general, improbably precise, a game of sorts with vast consequences for winner and loser.

It's a satellite image showing tribesmen gathering in a remote area where none should be — the photograph so clear you can see the caliber of ammunition they are carrying.

It's a snatched bit of conversation between two terrorist leaders, overheard by a trusted source the terrorists don't realize is listening.

It's a stolen diplomatic cable. That's right, we steal.

Each of these sources and a multitude of others can become the tips that put an entire nation on alert, as a single tip from a single source has done just before the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Here are some questions and answers about the gathering and use of intelligence:

**Question: What is intel?**

**Answer:** Simply put, it is information from anywhere that the U.S. can use to its advantage in the world, either in pursuit of its goals

See Q AND A, A4

Officials seek 3 men in new 9/11 threat / A21

**SN** On StarNet: Go to [azstarnet.com/multimedia](http://azstarnet.com/multimedia) for an interactive presentation on Tucson ties to terrorism.



DEAN KNUTH / ARIZONA DAILY STAR

### WET WEEKEND MAY BE AHEAD

Lightning strikes behind the Sabino High School stadium during a weather delay of the Friday evening game between Sabino and Palo Verde High School. That game continued, but several other high school football games were postponed until today and one was canceled after a monsoon storm brought widespread rain to the Tucson area. The storm

caused power outages and a swift-water rescue of two women and a dog in Avra Valley. Tucson Electric Power said about 2,200 people were without power most of the evening from Tucson's south side to Green Valley. More rain is expected for the rest of the weekend, with at least a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms today and Sunday.

## Gunmen robbed, assaulted 4 couples at Gates Pass

By Fernanda Echavarrí  
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Three gunmen who robbed and assaulted couples on the same night late last month at a popular makeout spot on Tucson's west side are being sought by the Pima County Sheriff's Department.

Four couples were robbed of money, cellphones and other

items in separate incidents beginning at 11 p.m. on Aug. 31, along Gates Pass Road, a well-known stop in the Tucson Mountains. The men were beaten, including one man who was hospitalized, and some of the women were sexually assaulted, said Deputy Dawn Barkman, a spokeswoman with the department.

The attacks occurred over 30

minutes in different areas of Gates Pass, she said.

"This hadn't happened before," Barkman said. "This particular case, with so many people assaulted the same way in a particular area, is unusual."

The couples told detectives that three men pulled up in a burgundy vehicle, possibly a Cadillac, with a white top and spoke wheels.

"We always patrol that area, and we hadn't had something like this happen before," Barkman said. "We usually get calls about graffiti writing and other minor issues."

There have been no reports of similar robberies since that night, Barkman said.

"We are hoping that the unusual vehicle will be easy to spot and the public will help us identify the

suspects," she said.

There have been no similar robbery incidents within the city limits, said Sgt. Matt Ronstadt, a Tucson Police Department spokesman.

Anyone with information is asked to call 911 or 88-CRIME.

Contact reporter Fernanda Echavarrí at [fechavarr@azstarnet.com](mailto:fechavarr@azstarnet.com) or 573-4224.

### COMING SUNDAY

## Survival of the fittest

Our 36-page special section takes a look at Southern Arizona's oldest businesses.



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#### INSIDE TODAY'S DAILY STAR

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#### Crusading against buffelgrass

Hardy invasive species chokes out native plants, causes fire danger. **Page A2**

#### Rebranding the Tucson Chamber

Group unveils new name and logo, and pledges more help for small biz. **Page A16**

#### TODAY'S WEATHER

High: 93 / Low: 74  
Storms stick around



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