



August 30, 2022

John and Kerry-Lynn Moede
109 W. Sherman Avenue
Williams, AZ 86046

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Moede:

Thank you for your letter dated August 15, 2022, regarding Drake Cement's current exploration project located outside Williams. Your feedback will be taken into consideration as Drake explores whether or not to mine much-needed pozzolan on this site, which was the location of a mine previously. Just so you are aware, this exploration phase is likely to take several months. It will involve digging eight small trenches, each measuring about 200 square feet. Once our exploration and analysis are complete, these trenches will be graded and repaired and the removed materials completely restored, per U.S. Forest Service guidelines.

Your letter, while surely heartfelt, contained several statements that simply are not accurate. Because I believe it's vital that members of the community understand Drake's intentions – and our approach to mining while safeguarding the environment – I hope you will consider what I have to say in the spirit it is written, with abiding respect and a commitment to transparency. It is in that same spirit that we recently launched a website focused on explaining the project to residents, which you can find at <https://perkinsvilleroadminefacts.com/>.

Put simply, under no circumstances would Drake proceed ahead with a project that we believed would "potentially prove catastrophic" to any neighboring city. Nor would we proceed with a project certain to cause a wildfire, flooding, destruction of the community water supply, degradation of the tourism industry, hunting, and recreation, damage to native species, or the wholesale destruction of cultural artifacts – or any of the myriad negative outcomes your letter suggests are a certainty with this project.

Destruction of the land and bringing harm to people has never been the Drake way, nor will it ever be the Drake way. Moreover considering many of our employees and families lives and enjoy the very same areas you have mentioned.

Your letter describes Drake's business practices as employing "standard boilerplate mitigation measures." With all due respect, our mitigation practices go well beyond industry standards, as does our commitment to the repair and reclamation of any land we touch in the mining process – and that again would be the case should we decide to proceed on this piece of land, which would cover about 200 acres of the 850 acres of staked claims located two miles outside of Williams.

As part of this project should it proceed, Drake, in collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service, will pay to thin trees and vegetation in the area. This thinning would provide greater protection against wildfires. Using wood byproducts from this process as an alternative fuel at Drake's Paulden cement plant also would remove 34,000 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent from the atmosphere, the equivalent to the emissions from 140 commercial trucks during a year. Additionally, pozzolan is a signature element in Drake's "green cement" initiative. Should we move forward with this project, the extracted pozzolan



would help remove an estimated 146,000 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent from the atmosphere each year, equal to the emissions from 600 commercial trucks annually.

Again, I want to thank you for your input. As you noted in your letter, the General Mining Act of 1872 offers wide latitude for prospecting and mining on federal land that has not been set aside for a specific use. The law requires a high degree of transparency throughout the process, to which Drake has always been fully committed. We will continue to work with the Forest Service to follow their guidelines – and we will continue to work with the city and residents like you to establish open lines of communication in both directions.

Over the past decade since the beginning of Drake's Arizona operations, our company has been deeply committed to being a difference-maker for the state and its communities. In that spirit, Drake has created scores of jobs and contributed millions of dollars in tax revenue, business spending, and infrastructure improvements statewide.

Rest assured, we will exhibit a similar commitment to improve the quality of life in Williams should this project move forward.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Enrique Rozas".

Enrique Rozas
President and CEO