



NEWS RELEASE

Augusta Receives New Permitting Schedule for Rosemont Copper Project

Denver, CO, November 20, 2009 – Augusta Resource Corporation (TSX/NYSE Amex: AZC) (“Augusta” or “the Company”) has been advised by the United States Forest Service (USFS) of the new timeline for completion of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and the final Record of Decision (ROD) for the Rosemont copper project.

The DEIS is expected to be released to the public early in the second quarter of 2010, followed immediately by a series of public meetings and a comment period. The ROD is expected in the fourth quarter of 2010. These new dates are outlined in an updated memorandum of understanding signed this week between Augusta's 100%-owned subsidiary Rosemont Copper Company and the USFS.

Jamie Sturgess, Augusta Vice-President Sustainable Development said: “This is a very complex and important project and we appreciate the amount of diligence the USFS has undertaken in its analysis. Our goal is to make the Rosemont project the best it can possibly be – a model not only for Arizona but for the industry. The Company will continue to implement our project financing strategy in anticipation of permits late next year.”

About Augusta

Augusta is a base metals company focused on advancing the Rosemont copper deposit near Tucson, Arizona. Rosemont hosts a large copper/molybdenum reserve that may account for about 10% of US copper output once in production in 2012 (for details refer to www.augustaresource.com). The exceptional experience and strength of Augusta’s management team, combined with the developed infrastructure and robust economics of the Rosemont project, will propel Augusta to become a solid mid-tier copper producer. The Company is traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange and the NYSE Amex under the symbol AZC, and on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange under the symbol A5R.

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