



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
INTERIOR REGIONS 6,7, & 8
12795 W. Alameda Parkway
Lakewood, CO 80228



IN REPLY REFER TO:

June 7, 2024

Edwin Monin, Project Manager
Coronado National Forest
U.S. Forest Service
300 West Congress Street
Tucson AZ 85701

Subject: Review of the Hermosa Critical Minerals Exploration Minerals Project, Sierra Vista
Ranger District, Coronado National Forest

Dear Mr. Monin,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Hermosa Critical Minerals Exploration Minerals Project in Santa Cruz County, Arizona. After our review, the National Park Service (NPS) requests that potential impacts on affected natural resources, including but not limited to air quality, be analyzed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The NPS also requests that the Forest Service consider appropriate natural resource mitigation measures in the EIS to the extent practicable. Any impacts to nearby NPS areas, particularly Class I areas, should be highlighted. We request an opportunity to review the draft EIS to understand these impacts and reasonable mitigation measures.

The NPS is not requesting cooperating agency status; rather, it would like to be notified when the EIS for this project is out for public comment, or if there are available agency review opportunities before public comment. Air quality is listed on the preliminary issues list. Saguaro National Park is approximately 40 miles away and is a Class I area.

For additional information, please contact Lisa Devore, Air Quality Specialist, National Park Service, at lisa_devore@nps.gov and Deena Lentz, Regional Environmental Coordinator, National Park Service, at deena_lentz@nps.gov.

Scott Stonum
Superintendent, Saguaro National Park