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First name: Judith

Last name: Clegg

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Coronado National Forest (CNF)

ATTN: Minerals and Geology Staff

Re: Hermosa-Taylor Deposit Drilling Project

October 4, 2016

Dear Ms. Kinsey, District Ranger:

We are writing in response to the September 7, 2016 Scoping Notice regarding the proposed Plan of Operations for the Hermosa-Taylor Deposit Drilling Project. We have strong concerns about the Project itself and the cumulative impacts of this Project and other mining activities planned or in progress on public and private lands in the Patagonia Mountains.

We are property owners in Patagonia Arizona and have also been members of a volunteer citizen group who regularly have monitored the Humboldt Canyon area (the project area). In the latter capacity, we have recorded the tracks of mountain lion, bear, bobcat, and coati and submitted these data for inclusion in the data base managed by the Sky Island Alliance. As the CNF has noted, Humboldt Canyon is also the home of an impressive list of endangered, threatened, or species of interest. It is also a favored area for hikers and bird watchers who live in or visit our region.

We are particularly concerned about the short and potentially longer term impacts of the Hermosa-Taylor Drilling Project on water quality and quantity, wildlife and vegetation, visual resources and scenic values, dark skies, recreation, transportation and traffic. We do not believe the Operations Plan adequately addresses the negative impacts of the Project in each of these critical elements. We are also very concerned about the capacity of the CNF to adequately monitor AMI's compliance with environmental requirements placed on the Project.

We urge the CFS to carefully assess all the elements noted above and believe, if that is done, that the Environmental Assessment should and will call for a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lynn Davison and Judith Clegg

PO Box 392

Patagonia, AZ 85624

Coronado National Forest (CNF)

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