Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/12/2024 3:57:29 PM First name: Jerome Last name: Bodmer Organization:

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Comments: I am not anti mining. I realize that minerals of all kinds are required for critical inrastructure. However, mining has a history of proceeding without regard for the environment, and operating on the fringe of public law in the name of profit maximization. I saw this first hand as a member of the Elkhorn Working Group in Montana. Mining, from individual prospectors to consortiums, consistently operated in a way that was destructive to surface water and wildlife habitat. Their philosophy was to extract as cheaply as possible without regard to the damage to the land. The legacy of mining in Montana is tragic, and not different from what I have observed in Arizona. The public was left with the cost of cleaning up the mess after operations ceased, and the mining operations had left with their profits. Don't let this happen with the South 32 Hermosa project. Make sure that financial guarantees are in place to mitigate the issues the mining will inevitably cause. Ensure that South 32 is forced to "put the land back the way it was" when operations cease. If they can't do that and be profitable, too bad. Then they should not be permitted to begin operations.