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First name: Blair Last name: Yates Organization:

Title:

Comments: This project will unlock new opportunities for the people of Southern Arizona, improving people's lives now and for generations to come. To date, South32 has invested more than \$2 million invested in key infrastructure and social service improvements in neighboring communities, including road upgrades, support for dozens of local nonprofit organizations, and facilitating STEM education programs for school age children and scholarships for older students.

This is the only advanced mine development project to date in the United States that could produce two federally designated critical minerals - manganese and zinc - both of which are essential minerals for powering the nation's clean energy future