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Comments: Hello and thank you for the opportunity to express concerns and questions regarding the Hermosa project.

I am greatly concerned about the effect this project will have on the health and well-being of the residents of Santa Cruz County and on the natural world in the region. I have sent a longer comment previously that was received by the USFS but for some reason was not posted to the public reading room. This comment will be a short summary of my lengthier comments.

The water issues (specifically the de-watering, contamination potential and risk to long term quality and quantity of water in the area) is of utmost concern and should be thoroughly researched.

The air contamination stemming from mine operations, truck traffic, and tailing facilities is of great concern and must be investigated with real site specific data

The threat to biodiversity from habitat destruction, noise and light pollution, needs to be more thoroughly studied.

The threat to the dark skies (specifically the risk to the scientific work and the massive investment at Whipple observatory) needs to be addressed.

Public safety and well being needs to be analyzed from a variety of standpoints; sickness from added toxins in the air, water and soil, danger on the highway from a massive uptick in truck traffic, mental health from stress and worry about future water availability.

The effect of the mining activity on the nature-based economy of the area needs to be analyzed.

The public enjoyment of public lands must not be diminished because of mining activity.

The activity of South32 at mine sites around the world needs to be taken into consideration as past actions can be an indication of future behavior.

I am adding this shortened version to my original comments in the hopes it will be posted in the public reading forum.

Thank you.