Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/5/2024 5:04:14 PM First name: JoLee Last name: Wennersten Organization: Title: Comments:

I am one of the many visitors that utilize the Circle Z Guest Ranch which is located just south of Patagonia, Arizona.

I am addressing our concern over the Proposed Access Route and the High Power Transmission Line that is being considered for the Hermosa Critical Mine's Project Plan of Operation to be located in the mountains of Patagonia.

The proposed route will have considerable impact on the Circle Z Ranch and several other ranches in this immediate area. For years the Circle Z Ranch has utilized the Special Use Permit to take thousands of guests to enjoy the unspoiled natural beauty of this area. Use of this land would eliminate the ability for the Ranch to utilize the trails that lead into adjacent forest service areas.

The proposed routing would have significant visual impact to the guests that visit the local ranches to enjoy the currently pristine area, something that, I am sure you will agree, is quickly disappearing in our fast-paced modern world. There is also the negative impact on the indigenous wildlife to be considered. This is a must.

I would ask that the Forest Service conduct a full analysis of The Permanent Access Route and accompanying High Power Transmission Lines to include its impact on the local economy and immediate environment. There are some viable alternatives to the proposed route that should be considered. There is already an established service route (FS Road 49) that would have little if any impact on the natural area. The actual power lines placement problem can be solved much more easily by burying the lines, as is the most current method of avoiding visual pollution.

I would like to thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter