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First name: Mick

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Mr. Kerwin S. Dewberry, Forest Supervisor

Coronado National Forest ATTN: Hermosa Critical Minerals Project 300 West Congress Street Tucson, AZ, 85701

Subject: Letter of Support for South32's Hermosa Critical Minerals Exploration and Mine Plan of Operations

Dear Mr. Dewberry,

I am writing to express my support for South32's Hermosa project as the only advanced mine development project 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.

It is also crucial that we have our own mines, smelters and refineries to produce the metals that our needed for our high standard of living.

If we do not have responsible mining within our borders, we will be forever beholden to external markets and foreign politics.

We must have mines where we can train new engineers, metallurgists, surveyors, operators, etc. to replace those aging out and retiring.

South32 is developing Hermosa to some of the highest standards worldwide and the project will be a valuable addition to the Arizona economy.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments as the Hermosa project's NEPA process continues. You can contact me at [mick.gavrilovic@gres-usa.com](mailto:mick.gavrilovic@gres-usa.com) with any questions or to discuss this issue in more detail.

Sincerely,

Mick Gavrilovic