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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a resident of over 15 years in Santa Cruz County.

I am writing with my concerns and in protest of the mining operations of South32 at the Hermosa Mine project. Specifically the effect to our watershed and water table, and air quality, and these effects on the local population and wildlife.

I feel that there is not enough concern for the environment from the agencies reviewing these impacts and issuing permits. We have seen these sad stories time and again over the decades of mining in Arizona--sites left in ruins and the surrounding community abandoned.

South32 is a foreign company and consequently does not have a deep enough concern for the health and stability of the natural environment in our area. I feel this is illustrated in their other mining enterprises around the world, and the repercussions felt decades later after they leave. And masked by using local labor force to run the operation.

Especially with the amount of water they intend to pump out of the aquifer to access the manganese, I want to see studies done that show the effect of lowering the water table to the surrounding communities. already in the summer the water table drops. if this drops even further, what impacts does this have on our lives as residents? deeper wells? contaminated water? struggling plant and animal life? I feel this study has been rushed and glossed over with short sighted desire for the manganese held below.

there must be a more sustainable way to power our planet that does not involve ripping gaping holes and impacting the water and air quality to reach these ends.

Please research new sources of power.