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Organization:

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Comments: My name is L'afar Harding. I live in Rio Rico and I have lived in Santa Cruz County for 16 years. I would like to highlight some potential impacts of the proposed South32 Hermosa Inc. mining project in the Patagonia, Arizona area and ask that these be included in the NEPA EIS study process:

- 1.)The effect on water quality in the greater Patagonia area and downstream in the watershed, including the Santa Cruz river, and how this will affect the riparian environments and human populations.
- 2.)The effect of the quantity of water the mining operation will use and how this will impact the aquifers of the surrounding area.
- 3.) The effect of the effluent produced by the mining operations and how this will impact land and aquatic wildlife and human populations in the area.
- 4.)The effects of the increased traffic from trucks transporting ore and how this will impact the surrounding community.
- 5.)The effects of the toxic residue of manganese, lead and zinc and how this will affect the health of local wildlife, plant life and human populations.
- 6.) The environmental effects of the proposed new utility lines to the mine site.
- 7.)It is my understanding that South32 has a poor international track record with other mining projects they have managed and this warrants consideration from the NEPA process.

Thank you sincerely for your time and consideration of these important matters