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First name: David

Last name: Peake

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear USFS and respective processes,

I support the South32 Hermosa project. I live on Harshaw Creek within the Patagonia mountains. I have lived in the community for almost 8 years after coming to work on the project and have seen the beneficial changes that have been implemented by South32 from previous owners. My family moved to Santa Cruz county and participate and work with multiple community organizations. South32 has shown to me that it is a socially responsible mining company proven by its commitment to its people (safety culture), the environment (abiding by the permits and exceeding requirements), and to the community (funding local events and hiring commitments). If this project were being driven by a different company, I may not be writing a letter of support. The underground mining method is a main draw to me for its minimization on environmental impacts/footprint and the ability to work in a more controlled environment. We are in a time when the US needs to move away from foreign sources. The US has an opportunity to have domestically sourced critical minerals (zinc and manganese) and other metals (lead, silver, copper) that do not just shift the liability and burden onto countries with lax environmental regulations.

I have seen South32 stands by its commitments, and I support the project.

Regards