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Comments: The cleanup from the last uranium mine in New Mexico is still ongoing. That fact alone should give the Forest Service pause before approving new uranium mining operations in Cibola National Forest. I want this land managed responsibly, and this project, as described, does not meet that standard. I am concerned about the massive amount of groundwater that will be extracted under drought conditions, and I am concerned that our public lands are under assault. This comment lays out specific problems with the notice that the agency must address.

The project overview states that the proposal was "submitted by Roca Honda Resources LLC on and near Jesus Mesa to conduct developmental drilling, develop infrastructure and construct access roads on NFS lands," as described in the Project Overview. That description tells the public almost nothing. There is no acreage, no disturbance footprint, no drilling depth or volume, and no explanation of what the infrastructure consists of. Without that information I cannot identify which resources are at risk or frame comments that go beyond what the notice itself says. The agency must release a complete project description before the scoping comment period closes, and must explain in detail what surface and subsurface disturbance is contemplated on National Forest System lands.

The notice does not identify which federal, state, or tribal agencies will serve as cooperating agencies, and it does not explain how the EIS will handle impacts from the mine and water treatment plant, which sit on adjacent state and private lands, not on NFS lands. The underground uranium mine and water treatment plant are central to why these NFS activities are proposed at all, yet the notice is silent on how their impacts will be analyzed and by whom. The agency should disclose the full cooperating agency list and confirm that the EIS scope will cover the entire connected action, not only the portion that touches National Forest land. I expect a direct answer to this question in the project record.

The Expected Analysis Type is listed as an Environmental Impact Statement, yet the Project Milestones table shows the following: "Milestone Date NEPA Start Date Finding/Decision Date" with no dates filled in for either field. Without a scoping start date and a decision date, I have no way to know when to participate, when a draft EIS will be available, or how long this process will take. Groundwater extraction at this scale, under the drought conditions that already stress this region, demands rigorous and transparent review on a schedule the public can track. The agency must publish firm milestone dates so that affected communities, tribal governments, and other interested parties can plan meaningful participation throughout the NEPA process.