

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/22/2016 11:00:00 AM

First name: James

Last name: Ambrose

Organization: AMI

Title:

Comments: September 22, 2016 Celeste Kinsey, District Ranger, Sierra Vista Ranger District Coronado National Forest
ATTN: Minerals & Geology Staff 300 W. Congress St. 6th Floor Tucson, AZ 85701
Re: Arizona Minerals, Inc. (AMI), Hermosa-Taylor Deposit Drilling Project
Dear District Ranger Kinsey, I am writing to express my support for Arizona Minerals, Inc. ("AMI") and its proposed exploratory drilling project in Santa Cruz County, Arizona, in the Sierra Vista Ranger District of the Coronado National Forest. The project is a valuable enhancement to the local community and Arizona's economy. AMI's exploratory drilling project allows AMI to assess the value of its mineral rights and contribute to Arizona's economy while protecting and preserving the local environment. AMI currently employs about 160 people (either directly or through contracting work), and the proposed exploratory drilling project will increase that work force by another 25-30 contracted workers. These jobs employ both skilled and unskilled laborers in the Tucson area, and the daily presence of a work force this size translates into significant local spending that is a tremendous boost to the economy in Santa Cruz County. I have been an employee of AMI for a year now. During this time, AMI has shown exemplary commitment to protecting the environment and maintaining worker safety. AMI's Operation and Maintenance Plan is designed to have the smallest possible impact on the environment by minimizing the number of drill pads and maximizing the use of previously disturbed areas. This project is an example of AMI's strong focus on environmental responsibility. AMI goes above and beyond the legal mandates, utilizing best practices to ensure projects have the least environmental impact possible and to ensure the safety of workers, contractors and the community. AMI does it right, and I am proud to be a part of this company. In addition, AMI also is strongly committed to the local community in Santa Cruz County through active support of many local organizations. As an employee of AMI, I have personally seen AMI's dedicated support of the many local businesses, which has a positive impact on the local community through building the Patagonia business coalition, the Patagonia school and supporting the 4H program. AMI's contributions help make this work possible. The Hermosa-Taylor Deposit Drilling Project should be approved to allow Arizona Minerals, Inc. to assess the value of its mineral rights in an environmentally responsible way that brings economic benefits to the local community and the state of Arizona. I fully support the Hermosa-Taylor Deposit Drilling Project, and encourage you to approve the project as expeditiously as possible.
Sincerely, James Ambrose
Sonoita, AZ