



Rachel Heinz <heinz.rachel@azdeq.gov>

South 32 Hermosa

1 message

Harris, Jerry <JHarris@swenergy.com>

Fri, Jan 12, 2024 at 4:35 PM

To: "heinz.rachel@azdeq.gov" <heinz.rachel@azdeq.gov>

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Division, Surface Water Protection
Attn: Rachel Heinz
[1110 W. Washington St.](#)
[Phoenix, AZ 85007](#)

Re: Draft AZPDES renewal permit for South32 Hermosa Project (AZ0026387); LTF No. 95353

Dear Ms. Heinz:

I support the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's proposal to renew the AZPDES permit for the South32 Hermosa Project south of Patagonia. I believe the permit complies with the federal Clean Water Act and parallel Arizona state law and will protect the quality of the permitted receiving waters.

This project is important to my business because it will employ both direct and indirect labor from Southwest Energy as well as many other locally owned businesses.

South32 has proven itself to be a responsible permit holder and good corporate citizen. The Hermosa project also offers the prospect of badly needed economic development in a community that needs more. If the mine is ultimately developed, it will also provide the only domestic source of manganese and a key additional domestic source of zinc. Manganese and zinc are critical minerals of substantial strategic importance to the American economy and the clean energy transition.

I urge ADEQ to approve the proposed permit renewal as written.

My home address is:

[7000 N Paloma Dr.](#)
[Tucson, AZ 85704](#)

Sincerely,

**Jerry Harris**

Executive Vice President

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