

# Nita Kostroski

Dear Arizona Department of Environmental Quality,

I'm writing to urge you to deny South32's Hermosa permit (#AZ0026387) for discharge of mine water into Harshaw and Alum creeks. The proposed impacts are unacceptable and fall into two main categories: 1) dewatering due to the "cone of depression" that would be created around the mine and 2) disturbances that would come from dramatically increased flow rates in nearby creeks.

Approving this permit is yet another gift to the few profiting from the \$\$ that will be made. It is time to gift the earth, the people that appreciate the environment. Nature works well on its own and messing with our environment only creates more disasterous results.

Although water in the desert is a rarity, and one would think that increased flow would help our streams, because of the sensitive ecological balance of these riparian ecosystems, a change in flow regime this drastic could permanently alter the character and species composition of these areas.

I urge you and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to DENY the permit for this project.

Sincerely,