

Barb Saulsbury

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit # AZ0026387 for South 32 Hermosa Project

I am very fortunate to have settled in Patagonia Arizona. My husband and I spent parts of four years traveling around the United States to find a place. We are very excited and pleased to be here. The beauty of the area attracted us. As we become members of this community I feel it necessary to express concerns to impress the importance that the agency, ADEQ, seriously and to its best abilities monitor and regulate the South 32 mining project.

As you review the permit #AZ0026387 please address these concerns.

1. The discharge proposed actually Outfall 002 is on Upper Harshaw Creek. This water creek is listed as impaired under Arizona's Clean Water Act. Therefore the agency should revise this before issuing the renewed permit.
2. The agency should also provide the extent of ongoing discharge to Harshaw creek. This information is important before the issuing of this permit.
3. Concerns about Alum Gluch also need to be addressed. The Total Maximum Daily Load should be updated and new studies may be necessary. New lead impairments should be studied.
4. The idea that "historic tailing" into Alum Gluch does not acknowledge that South 32 is operating and pollutants from the tailing piles and seepage includes dangerous new sources of pollutants.
5. Sonoita Creek is an important waterway. It seems important that this agency complete Total Maximum Daily Load for zinc impairment. This appears to be required by the Clean Water Act.
6. Manganese and Sulfate need to be monitored. It makes sense to request this monthly.
7. South 32 is a new mine with new minerals being removed. As such, the agency should legally require the permits to be "new sources" of discharges.

Please take these concerns into your considerations as you go through the process of the renewal of AZPDES Discharge Permit #AZ0026387.

I personally ask your agency to take into considerations the safety of people of Santa Cruz county. Be thorough and thoughtful because you protect the people and environment of this wonderful area.

Thank you

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