

Beth Jonquil

The Hermosa project would permanently damage the Patagonia mountains. It would permanently and irreparably damage the Harshaw and Alum Creeks. This area is one of our nation's most treasured biodiverse hotspots. Pumping the area dry to develop this new mine would lower groundwater levels and harm hundreds of springs fed by that water. The water would bury springs and irrevocably change the landscape, which would affect the wildlife in the area as well. It could cause flooding in the town of Patagonia, which would threaten their homes and businesses. This area is worth far more than money to all people, particularly those who live there and care about the preservation of the area's ecosystem. Thank you for your serious consideration about the most unwelcome proposal of South32. Foreign investors should not be able to force this unsustainable plan on Arizona/Patagonia.