

# KATHRYN SCHRAG

I am writing to address AZPDES Permit No. AZ0026387. I have lived in Patagonia for over 20 years, and have watched with growing concern as foreign mining interests have made plans to extract minerals from the surrounding mountains. This is one of the most biodiverse areas in the world, and although it contains minerals valuable to all of us, the price of extraction on the health of the land, the air, the water, the plants, the animals, and humans may be too steep. If we are unable to stop South 32 and the other companies, it is the responsibility of ADEQ to be certain they do it to the HIGHEST safety standards possible. Tonight I attended the session sponsored by ADEQ at the Patagonia High School Over 100 people attended, from all over Santa Cruz County. The concerns were well articulated and i will not bother reiterating them here. What i will say, is that i oppose the ADEQ permit as drafted for the Hermosa Mine, and beg you to readdress the issue.