

# Mary Meister

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.

As a member of Sky Island Alliance, you are aware of the variety of impacts this mining will cause. Southern AZ is filled with the mess previous mines have left behind. We have already messed up the ground water and water tables. We have already devastated wildlife over the years. It's time to step back and realize we cannot continue to "mine baby mine"! Do not approve this mining permit. Mining must find new processes that does not require use of large quantities of water and then ruining the area and moving away leaving clean up for the residents living in the area.

Sincerely,