

## Karla Candelaria

I urge you to reject the proposed air-pollution permit for the Copper World mine. As it's currently drafted, the proposed permit does little to ensure the mine protects our air or environment. Instead, it gives the mine a free pass to pollute.

The daily operations of the proposed mine will include blasting, ore crushing, processing, and the construction of a sulfuric acid plant. These activities have the potential to release thousands of tons of toxic air pollution every year, threatening public health and the environment of the ecologically important and unique Santa Rita mountains.

I am concerned that the permit contains the following deficiencies:

- It exempts the mine from compliance during malfunctions, startups, and shutdowns. If the mine can't comply at all times, it shouldn't get a permit to pollute.
- It fails to require actual monitoring of emissions from all sources to ensure compliance with all limits. Monitoring must be required to ensure compliance.
- It inappropriately classifies certain emissions sources, like ore processing, as "fugitive," allowing the mine to avoid more stringent permitting and pollution-control requirements.

At a minimum, ADEQ must require the Copper World mine to obtain a Class I permit. A Class I permit is necessary so that the mine is always accountable for limiting its air pollution and protecting the environment — no exceptions. As the chief enforcer of environmental standards in the state of Arizona, the ADEQ should be holding this mining activity to the highest environmental standards possible under the law.

It is abundantly clear that this mine will destroy so much of what makes the Santa Rita sky islands special, without even mentioning the tailings deposits blowing toxic dust over the community of Corona de Tucson and emissions increased heavy truck traffic through ecologically sensitive areas. I urge ADEQ to deny Hudbay the ability to destroy sacred mountains and pollute our communities for short term profit that only benefits a few within a corporation that does not call this area home.