

## Jennifer Clarke

I have been opposing the development of copper mining in the Santa Rita Mountains for the past 18 years for a multitude of reasons. With regard to the development of this mine it will only further degrade air quality in our area for Green Valley, Sahuarita and the over million inhabitants residing in the city of Tucson. Already on the west side of Green Valley we have the dust coming off the 19 miles of tailings along I 19. As the desert has dried and the winds have increased due to climate change dust storms have become more frequent and will only continue to do so.

Also during the past 18 years Sahuarita has become a major housing development moving thousands of new inhabitants into this area. At this present moment several hundred acres of desert have been bladed in preparations for the further construction of several thousands more houses. This too is effecting the areas air quality noticeably Pima County has give out many more ozone warning this past year. All this in combination with a mine whose plans include sulfuric acid production is a perfect cocktail for an increasing population of asthmatics and those developing respiratory failure.

Unfortunately the state of Arizona is continuing on the course of business as usual despite the effects of climate disruption and the effects it has on our environment now and in the future. A future that does not bode well for our water reserves and our air quality.