

(Add date)

USDA Forest Service
Coronado National Forest
300 West Congress Street
Tucson, AZ 85701
Attn: Beverly Everson

Dear Ms. Everson,

I'm writing to express my concerns about the proposed Rosemont Mine project. As a visitor to the Sonoita area, particularly the Epona Center at Apache Springs Ranch, I am disturbed by the news that this beautiful valley is set to be irreparably damaged by an open pit mine of such scale. A large part of the reason I would invest the time and money to visit the area from my current home in **(please add your city, state, country)**, involves the serenity and unmatched beauty of the Santa Rita mountain empire, particularly Gardner Canyon. I'm not really interested in visiting your area to hike or trail ride or even drive past an open pit mine. Sitting out to watch the stars will not be the same with noise, light and dust pollution that will seriously compromise the experience.

It has been a real treat to be able to **(stay and/or study)** at this historic ranch and get a taste of the West while also learning some life enriching skills from the staff and horses at the Epona Center. **(Mention other activities you may have enjoyed in the Sonoita/Patagonia area during your stay.)** To hear that the livelihood of this entire extended community is being sacrificed for a mine owned by foreign businesses seems ridiculous and short-sighted. **(other personal comments here.)**

If I want to see industrial waste lands, I can find that much closer to home. If I want to experience city life, I'd much rather spend my vacation and my money in **(choose a few of your favorite cities)** than Tucson.

I have always enjoyed the view along Highway 83 driving in from **(the Tucson airport, Phoenix airport, etc.)** Tourism in this area will suffer greatly when visitors expecting to experience the history and unique beauty of the Southwest drive past the scarred landscape you propose. This tells us that your community does not value what it has, and so why should we value it? It's easy to take our hard-earned money elsewhere. It's not going to be easy for the local businesses and residents that this plan will most assuredly betray. I urge you to put a stop to this travesty before it's too late.

Sincerely,