

HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT

For the South32 Hermosa Mine



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

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The background of the slide is an aerial photograph of the Hermosa Mine industrial site. The image shows a large complex of industrial buildings, a prominent tall smokestack on the right side, and various pieces of heavy machinery and equipment scattered across the site. The surrounding landscape is hilly and appears to be in a semi-arid region. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

The Health Impact Assessment (HIA) aims to

- **understand** the health and wellbeing of nearby Arizona communities, and
- **recommend** strategies to mitigate potential health risks from the Hermosa Mine.

HIA Timeline: October 2025-2026

KEY OBJECTIVES

IDENTIFY BASELINE HEALTH CHARACTERISTICS

Document health outcomes (asthma rate), social factors (access to care), and environmental exposures (lead in drinking water) before the mining begins.

ASSESS POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Examine potential beneficial (jobs) and adverse health impacts (reduced water quality).

EVALUATE CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Consider the combined influence of the project, the environment, and social conditions on health.

RECOMMEND SOLUTIONS

Provide strategies to mitigate health risks (water quality testing), strengthen community resilience (expand healthcare services), and monitor health outcomes (blood lead testing) over time.

PROJECT SCOPE

We will:

- Utilize existing publicly available data to understand baseline community health characteristics
- Engage community health and research experts
- Identify comparable communities and evaluate health characteristics
- Make recommendations to mitigate potential health risks

We will **not**:

- Collect *new* data, samples or other information
- Review or assess occupational or worker health or wellbeing



External Advisory Workgroup

Relevant Univ. of Arizona experts (e.g., epidemiologists)

Ensures appropriate data and methods, suggest alternatives

Provides feedback on draft reports and presentations

Meets quarterly

Healthcare Advisory Workgroup

Healthcare and public health experts actively working in Santa Cruz County

Ensures that local community concerns and lived experiences are considered and addressed

Advises HIA team on local assessments and reports for integration

Provides feedback on methodology and drafts

Meets monthly

TIMELINE

Fall 2025

Winter/Spring 2026

Summer/Fall 2026

Launch

Baseline Community
Health Report

Full Health Impact
Assessment

Final Report



PROJECT TEAM



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