



Sierrita Operations
6200 West Duval Mine Road
Post Office Box 527
Green Valley, AZ 85622-0527

January 31, 2008

Via Certified Mail # 7006 2150 0004 3614 1736
Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Robert Casey
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Enforcement Unit
1110 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2935

Re: Quarterly Groundwater Monitoring
Phelps Dodge Sierrita, Inc. – Mitigation Order on Consent, Docket No. P-50-06

Dear Mr. Casey:

Phelps Dodge Sierrita, Inc., operating as Freeport-McMoRan Copper and Gold, Sierrita Operations (“Sierrita”), has conducted five rounds of quarterly groundwater monitoring under the Mitigation Order starting in the fourth quarter of 2006. In accordance with our October 31, 2006 Work Plan to Characterize and Mitigated Sulfate with Respect to Drinking Water Supplies in the Vicinity of the Phelps Dodge Sierrita Tailing Impoundment, groundwater samples have been analyzed for both dissolved and total sulfate. As was stated in our December 19, 2007 Fourth Quarter 2007 Groundwater Monitoring Report, the difference between dissolved and total sulfate concentrations has been negligible. As a result, we propose that future analyses of groundwater samples be limited to dissolved sulfate as was recommended in our September 26, 2007 Third Quarter 2007 Groundwater Monitoring Report. If possible, we request that ADEQ provide written approval of our proposal by February 8, 2008 so that we can implement this change during the first quarter of 2008 groundwater monitoring.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Stuart Brown at (503) 675-5252 or myself at (520) 648-8857 if you have any question regarding this submittal.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ned Hall".

E. L. (Ned) Hall
Chief Environmental Engineer

ELH:ms
20080131_001

xc: John Broderick, Sierrita Operations
Chad Fretz, Sierrita Operations
Ray Lazuk, Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc.
Stuart Brown, Bridgewater Group, Inc