



Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



Misael Cabrera
Director

March 25, 2016

Freeport-McMoRan Sierrita Inc.
Attention: Deborah Chismar
6200 West Duval Mine Road
Green Valley, Arizona 85614

Re: Review of the Contingency Plan for Sulfate with Respect to Drinking Water Supplies in the Vicinity of the Freeport-McMoRan Sierrita Inc. Tailing Impoundment, Mitigation Order on Consent Docket No. P-50-06, dated February 17, 2016.

Dear Ms. Deborah Chismar:

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality ("ADEQ") received the Contingency Plan for Sulfate with Respect to Drinking Water Supplies in the Vicinity of the Freeport-McMoRan Sierrita Tailing Impoundment on February 17, 2016. You submitted this document in accordance with Mitigation Order on Consent Docket No. P-50-06. ADEQ Mining and Industrial Drywell Unit, has reviewed the above referenced Plan and has the following recommendations:

Recommendations

The suggestions below are not required by State law and there are no legal consequences should you choose to disregard them; however, ADEQ appreciates your cooperation and asks you to consider the following:

1. Based on the information provided the APP Unit believes the proposed Contingency Plan is adequate for short-term (<five-years). If the curtailment lasts longer than five years, an additional evaluation should be conducted to determine the continued migration of the sulfate plume.
2. Sierrita has adequately addressed ADEQ's original comments, and the APP Unit does not have any comments

How to Submit

Please submit all documents sent in response to this letter using one of the following methods:

- Hard copy to ADEQ, Attention: Madeline Keller, Water Quality Compliance Unit, 1110 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007
- E-mail to mmk@azdeq.gov

Main Office

1110 W. Washington Street • Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 771-2300

Southern Regional Office

400 W. Congress Street • Suite 433 • Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 628-6733

www.azdeq.gov

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Thank you for your efforts to comply with Arizona's environmental requirements. Should you have any comments or questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (602) 771- 7681 or mmk@azdeq.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Madeline Keller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Madeline Keller, Enforcement Case Manager
Water Quality Compliance Unit

Cc: John Broderick, Sierrita
Chad Fretz, Sierrita
Dave Caskey, Sierrita
Ned Hall, Freeport-McMoRan Inc.
Stuart Brown, Freeport-McMoRan Inc.
Jim Norris, Clear Creek Associates