State of Arizona
Clean Water Act § 401 Water Quality Certification
ADEQ LTF No.: 87023

1. AUTHORIZATION

This State Water Quality Certification (WQC) is issued by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) under the authority of § 401(a) of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.) and Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS) § 49-202.

Based on the information provided and identified in Section 3, ADEQ certifies that the activities proposed for the Black Bridge Road Crossing Improvement Project will not violate applicable Surface Water Quality Standards (SWQS) in the Gila and San Pedro Rivers.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Project Name:	Black Bridge Road Crossing Improvement Project
Latitude:	32.984325 N
Longitude:	-110.787825 W
Applicant:	ASARCO Hayden Operations
	Michelle Lammers
	866 N. Hayden Avenue
	Hayden, Arizona 85135

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE

_____ _____

Trevor Baggiore
Water Quality Division
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Date

2. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE CERTIFIED

The ASARCO Black Bridge Road Crossing Project consists of a corridor across the floodplain and main channels of the Gila and San Pedro rivers. This corridor is roughly 100 feet wide by 610 foot long, and is located on private land south of Hayden, Arizona. An existing at-grade road crossing consists of an unimproved roadway that follows the natural terrain through the river channels and floodplain. Approximately two acres of jurisdictional waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) are within the project area boundary. The project area boundary includes the main channel of the Gila River (80 feet wide), the main channel of the San Pedro River (67 feet wide), and the intervening floodplain, with a total combined width of 550 feet.

The proposed project includes placement of three 4x10x80-foot concrete box culverts in the San Pedro River channel and four 4x10x80-foot box culverts in the Gila River channel. The crossing configuration includes:

- an engineered earthen roadbed through the intervening floodplain;
- pre-cast box culverts with wing-walls;
- riprap inlet and outlet protection; and
- a riprap grade control weir along the 1,907-foot elevation contour which will manage flows through the culverts and floodplain.

The proposed project will require approximately 9,266 cubic yards of native fill as cover material for the culverts and to prepare the roadbed. Approximately 1,000 cubic yards of concrete for the box culvert structures, and 4,216 cubic yards of grouted riprap will be placed along the roadbed and inlet/outlet structures to protect against a 10-year flood event.

Project construction would include the following activities:

- removal of sediment and grading for site preparation;
- temporary diversion of the Gila River channel;
- installation of pre-cast box culverts and wing walls;
- backfilling and road surface preparation;
- finish grading; and
- riprap installation.

The area of disturbance for the construction of the crossing will be approximately 2.4 acres, with approximately 1.10 acres of permanent impacts to WOTUS, consisting of fill materials. During construction, the Gila River channel may be temporarily diverted into the floodplain. This diversion would consist of an earthen plug and berm placed across the active river channel so that flows would be directed into the floodplain between the Gila and San Pedro channels. An additional 1.0 acre of WOTUS would be temporarily impacted during construction. Once the culvert within the Gila River channel is completed, the diversion berm would be removed. During construction, appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be installed to prevent sediment discharge into the Gila and San Pedro rivers.

3. INFORMATION REVIEWED

During the development of this WQC, ADEQ had access to and reviewed the following documents, which are on file with ADEQ:

A. CWA § 401 WQC application package including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Application (Eng. Form 4345) with project descriptions and maps, dated August 6, 2020; received by ADEQ on December 8, 2020. Permittee: ASARCO Hayden, Attn.: Melissa Lammers.
B. U.S. Corps of Engineers (USACE) Public Notice of the Black Bridge Road Crossing Improvement Project Application for Permit, comment period August 26, 2020 through September 25, 2020. USACE Project Manager: Michael Langley.
C. State of Arizona Surface Water Quality Standards (SWQS), Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) Title 18, Chapter 11, Article 1, Appendix B. Designated uses for the Gila River are: Aquatic and Wildlife Warm (A&Ww); Agricultural Irrigation (AgI); Agricultural Livestock (AgL); Full Body Contact (FBC); and Fish Consumption (FC). Designated uses for the San Pedro River are: Aquatic and Wildlife Warm (A&Ww); Agricultural Livestock (AgL); Full Body Contact (FBC); and Fish Consumption (FC).
D. State of Arizona's 2018 303(d) List of Impaired Waters: at the location of the project, the Gila River is impaired for Suspended Sediment concentrations (SSC) and the San Pedro River is impaired for E.coli.

4. NOTIFICATION PROVISIONS

For any correspondence regarding this project, the ADEQ mailing address is:

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Rosi Sherrill
Surface Water Permits / 401 WQCs / mailstop 5415A-1
1110 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

For questions or general comments:
Email: sherrill.laurie@azdeq.gov Voice: (602) 771-4409

In any correspondence, please reference:
Black Bridge Road Crossing Improvement Project
USACE File No.: SPL-2010-00239
ADEQ LTF No.: 87023

5. SPECIAL CONDITION

This Certification applies only to the activities described in Section 2 and is based upon the information listed in Section 3. This Certification is valid for the same period as the CWA 404 permit issued by the USACE. The applicant must apply for renewal, modification or extension of this Certification if the CWA 404 permit is renewed, modified, extended or otherwise changed.