

**NOTICE OF PRELIMINARY DECISION TO ISSUE A
STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION OF A FEDERAL ACTION**

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Pursuant to the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 and in accordance with Arizona Administrative Code R18-1-401, the Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) intends to issue a conditional State 401 water quality certification for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CoE) CWA 404 Individual Permit to the following applicant:

Applicant: ASARCO LLC, Ray Operations
Duane M. Yantorno, Corporate Manager of Permitting
PO Box 640
Kearney, AZ 85137

Project Name: Ripsey Wash Tailings Storage Facility Project
Project Location: In Ripsey Wash, south of the Florence Kelvin Highway in Pinal County

CoE Public Notice / Application No.: SPL-2011-01005-MWL
LTF No.: 63989

The draft certification is available for public review, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at ADEQ, 1110 West Washington Street, Records Management Center, Phoenix, Arizona, 85007. In Phoenix, please call (602) 771-4380 or e-mail RecordsCenter@azdeq.gov 24 hours in advance to schedule an appointment to review the file.

Persons may submit comments on the proposed action, in writing, to Rosi Sherrill, Project Manager, ADEQ, Surface Water Section, 1110 West Washington Street, MC5415A-1, Phoenix, AZ 85007 or electronically to k7@azdeq.gov. Comments must include the name, mailing address and e-mail address (if available) of the commenter. Comments must be received by 500 pm on September 2, 2016.

To request an auxiliary aid or service for accessible communication, please contact ADEQ at (602) 771-4791 or at HRhelp@azdeq.gov or dial 7-1-1 for TTY/TTD Services.