

ADEQ Cottonwood Community Update | ADEQ to Host Community Meeting on 9/23/26

We are writing to invite you to an in-person only, informal community meeting in Cottonwood on Wed., Sept. 23, 2026.

As you know, Minerals Research, Inc. (MRI) has been operating under its state air quality permit application submitted on Oct. 31, 2023, for its slag pile operations at 705 East Birch Street in Cottonwood, while ADEQ and the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) worked to complete and analyze related health and environmental studies to address community concerns and inform preparation of the proper draft air quality permit for the facility.

Now that ADEQ's analysis of the offsite environmental studies, community air quality monitoring data, and the ADHS Health Consultation is complete, we are ready to walk you through the next actions:

- **ADEQ's Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP)**
 - ADEQ has accepted MRI's application to the VRP to address existing offsite soil contamination at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 7400 site. ADEQ will oversee and approve MRI's voluntary remedial actions. This comes after ADEQ's Preliminary Investigation report identified soil impacts with a distinct "slag profile" at the VFW site located immediately north of the MRI slag processing operation. ADEQ will provide an overview of the VRP process and when and how you can provide input.
- **Air Quality Permitting**
 - ADEQ will review the draft air quality permit and conditions, including the additional stringent operational and control obligations specifically designed to limit offsite transport of air contaminants and provide an overview of the public participation process.

Meeting Details:

Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2026, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Cottonwood Recreation Center

150 S 6th St., Cottonwood, AZ 86326

[View Meeting Flyer >](#) | [View ADEQ Event Calendar >](#)

We welcome and encourage you to attend to learn more, ask questions, get answers, and share your feedback. Thank you for your continued engagement.

Additional Info & Resources:

- VFW VRP Site Listing Page | [View >](#)
- MRI Facility of Interest Page | [View >](#)
- ADEQ Ambient Air Quality Monitoring | [View >](#)
- ADEQ WQARF Preliminary Investigation | [View >](#)

Thank you,

Samantha To

Community Liaison

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

928.301.0018