

ADEQ Water Quality Report Analysis

2025 Q2 - April 1 - June 30

- During quarter 2, the northernmost monitoring well (POC-2) has remained on accelerated monitoring due to the arsenic exceedance observed in the groundwater monitoring well. One of the three monthly samples collected from POC-2 during the quarter exceeded the arsenic limit established in the permit. EFRI reported the exceedance to ADEQ at the time of discovery and there is no evidence to indicate that facility operations have caused or contributed to the exceedance. Monitoring for arsenic at the well shall remain accelerated until permit conditions are met that would provide the permittee the opportunity to revert to the standard monitoring frequency. No other exceedances have been observed at the remaining two Coconino monitoring wells or the Redwall-Muav well. Water that collects in the sump continues to be pumped to and stored within the lined on-site non-stormwater impoundment.
- ADEQ performed an inspection of the facility on July 22, 2025 and found the facility to be in compliance. While on-site for the inspection, ADEQ personnel also inspected the underground working levels and the collection of water management constructions within the shaft and development levels. Tunnel gradings are designed such that water drains to existing tunnels that drain to the sump as designed. EFRI staff also brought ADEQ inspectors to the equipment repair bays, ventilation shafts, a secondary escapeway, and the seep collection rings approximately 700' below ground surface in the main shaft.
- The mine shaft pump operated for 90 out of 91 days in the quarter, averaging approximately 7,640 gallons per day.
- Mining operations continue at the facility. ADEQ observed operators and support staff pause mining operations to safely hoist and lower underground hauling equipment into the shaft and down to production levels.
- Uranium content in samples collected from the outflow shaft of the mine shaft into the lined non-stormwater impoundment have sharply increased in both uranium content and activity relative to the previous two quarterly samples.
- The facility's onsite water treatment for arsenic and uranium continues to operate and provides water for beneficial reuse onsite including dust suppression.