

**PROPOSED ARIZONA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (AZPDES)
PERMIT MODIFICATION AND PUBLIC HEARING**

Pursuant to the Clean Water Act and in accordance with Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) R18-9-A907, the Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) proposes to modify an Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (AZPDES) Permit to discharge pollutants to Waters of the United States to the following applicant, subject to certain effluent limitations and special conditions:

AZPDES Permit No. AZ0026387
Arizona Minerals Inc.
2210 East Fort Lowell Road
Tucson, Arizona 85719

Public Notice No. 20-45
Published on February 26, 2021
Published in the Nogales International

Arizona Minerals Inc. applied for a major modification to the AZPDES permit for the addition of Outfall 002 with the proposed discharge of up to 6.48 million gallons per day (mgd) of treated mine drainage water, tailings seepage, groundwater, core cutting water, drilling water, and stormwater. The proposed discharge will be from the January Mine Hermosa Project Water Treatment Plant 2 to Harshaw Creek in the Santa Cruz River Basin in Township 23 S, Range 16 E, Section 4, in Santa Cruz County, Arizona.

The draft permit and statement of basis were published in the Nogales International on February 5, 2021 and a virtual public hearing was held on February 25, 2021. Due to comments received, ADEQ is extending the public comment period by 30 days and will be conducting a second public hearing. The draft permit and statement of basis was republished in the Nogales International on February 26, 2021. A second public hearing will be held online on April 1, 2021 at 6:00 PM MST. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow the public to make comments for the record. ADEQ will respond in writing to all comments submitted during the formal public comment period. The public hearing will be held remotely due to the current health concerns posed by Covid-19. There will be no physical access to the hearing.

The draft permit and statement of basis may be viewed online at <http://www.azdeq.gov/notices> by typing the permit number in the “Keywords” search box. The public notice and related documentation also are available for public review, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the [ADEQ Records Center](#), 1110 W. Washington St., 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.

The public comment period is in effect from February 5, 2021 to April 7, 2021. Persons may submit comments on the proposed action in writing, to Devin McAllister, ADEQ, Water Quality Division, 1110 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, or electronically to mcallister.devin@azdeq.gov. Comments must be received or postmarked by April 7, 2021. All written comments received by ADEQ of this notice will be considered in the final permit decision.

If you wish to verbally comment during the hearing, you can connect using the GoToWebinar application using a computer, tablet or phone that is equipped to meet the internet and system requirements. You must pre-register to attend the hearing via the GoToWebinar application using this Registration link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1373147499767911436>

If you do not wish to verbally comment, we strongly encourage you to listen to the webinar using this phone number (415) 930-5321, and attendee code 416-619-275; this will free up space on the webinar for people who wish to verbally comment.

If you wish to verbally comment during the hearing but do not have access to a computer and internet service, please call Chris Montague-Breakwell, ADEQ Unit Manager, at (602) 771-4162, at least 48 hours prior to the hearing for assistance.

ADEQ will take reasonable measures to provide access to department services to individuals with limited ability to speak, write or understand English and/or to those with disabilities. Requests for language translation, ASL interpretation, CART captioning services or disability accommodations must be made at least 48 hours in advance by contacting the Title VI Nondiscrimination Coordinator at 602-771-2215 or Communications@azdeq.gov. For a TTY or other device, Telecommunications Relay Services are available by calling 711.

ADEQ tomará las medidas razonables para proveer acceso a los servicios del departamento a personas con capacidad limitada para hablar, escribir o entender inglés y/o para personas con discapacidades. Las solicitudes de servicios de traducción de idiomas, interpretación ASL (lengua de signos americano), subtítulo de CART, o adaptaciones por discapacidad deben realizarse con al menos 48 horas de anticipación comunicándose con el Coordinador de Anti-Discriminación del Título VI al 602-771-2215 o Communications@azdeq.gov. Para un TTY u otro dispositivo, los servicios de retransmisión de telecomunicaciones están disponible llamando al 711.