

NOTICE OF PRELIMINARY DECISION TO ISSUE A SIGNIFICANT AMENDMENT TO AN INDIVIDUAL AQUIFER PROTECTION PERMIT

Pursuant to Arizona Administrative Code, Title 18, Chapter 9, Article 1, the Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality intends to issue a Significant Amendment to an Individual Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) for the following applicant:

Permittee: Arizona State Parks and Trails

Facility: Kartchner Caverns State Park
Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location: Kartchner Caverns State Park,
2980 Highway 90, Benson, Arizona 85602,
Cochise County

Permit No.: 102768, **LTF No.:** 115841

*Notice published in San Pedro Valley News & Sun
on October 11, 2026*

PN No. 26-16

Details

The purpose of the amendment is to make treatment process modifications to the plant to treat the high strength wastewater. The treatment process modifications are centered around two main goals: intensifying microbiology to produce sufficient population to treat the high strength wastewater in the existing tankage and providing a process that is flexible to adjust with the wide range of influent flow into the plant.

How to Review the Documents

You can view the documents online by finding this notice in the list on azdeq.gov/PublicNotices.

The documents are also available at the ADEQ Records Center. Call 602-771-4380 to make an appointment, or visit the Records Center located at 1110 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona. Learn more at azdeq.gov/records.

How to Submit Comments

Written comments regarding the proposed action can be submitted two ways:

- Email comments to greenslade.maribeth@azdeq.gov
- Mail comments to ADEQ, Water Quality Division, Attn: Maribeth Greenslade, Groundwater Reclamation and Reuse Section, 1110 W. Washington St., Phoenix, Arizona 85007

The comment period begins October 11, 2026 Comments must be received or postmarked by November 10, 2026 to be considered.

You may request a public hearing on the proposed action by email or mail. A public hearing request must be in writing and must include the reasons for such request. If there is a significant degree of public interest, the Director will hold a hearing.

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, Joaquin Marruffo Ruiz, at 520-628-6744 or Marruffo.Joaquin@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, Joaquin Marruffo Ruiz, al 520-628-6744 o Marruffo.Joaquin@azdeq.gov. Para un TTY u otro dispositivo, los servicios de retransmisión de telecomunicaciones están disponible llamando al 711.