

Lori Andersen

As an Arizona resident I strongly urge ADEQ to NOT issue a permit to Copper World. Based on the information published by independent researchers and Hudbay itself,

Copper World will pollute water above, below, and beyond its area of operations. First, the permitting process allows for too much wiggle room and charitably acts with the mining company in good faith. Second, the legacy of mining and its pollution of water across our state make clear that our process for keeping mining activities clean has failed.

To believe that Hudbay will set up a mining operation that will defy the odds and function without contaminating our water and land is folly. In taking a closer look at Hudbay's history of abuse in other mining sites, the company offers solid reasons to believe that it will abuse any avenue of wiggle room it can find and ADEQ has provided ample room for Hudbay to wiggle its way to making a mess of the region's aquifer. The Pima County administration's critique of ADEQ's Aquifer Protection Permit articulates this so very well. Finally, the precious water in Southern Arizona has a far greater value than the copper production gleaned from Hudbay's mining. I would like you to place the value on maintaining a clean aquifer for future Arizonans.

Do not issue this permit. Our groundwater is invaluable and the health risk is real and irreversible, as we've seen with other Arizona communities and around the world.