

## Marie-Christine Moody

I oppose the Hudbay Mineral Class II Air Permit. All permits should be paused to allow for full evaluation of use of In-situ extraction instead of destructive open-pit mining. In situ extraction, is where a leaching solution is injected underground to extract minerals, avoids the generation of waste rock and tailings altogether. It does require careful management to ensure that the leachate solution and dissolved metals do not contaminate groundwater.

Florence Copper is an in-situ copper recovery project located midway between Phoenix and Tucson in the community of Florence, Arizona. Setting a new standard for conservation and environmental protection in copper mining. Choosing in-situ copper recovery (ISCR), a low-impact method of copper recovery that has long-term environmental benefits. There is no open-pit or underground excavation, no waste rock piles, heap leach piles, or tailings storage areas, resulting in a much smaller footprint that does not alter the site topography.

In addition, it does not require blasting, loading, hauling, dumping, crushing, or conveying of mineralized material, resulting in 75% fewer carbon emissions, 65% less energy, and 78% less water consumed per pound of copper produced than conventional open-pit copper mines in Arizona.

Hudbay Mineral is proposing 4 open-pits on the west side with tailings storage entirely to close to Copper Ridge Elementary School and surrounding communities. Regardless of what they have promised on paper their track record of continual changes to the project, cuts in order to save money will not protect communities surrounding the mine.

The need for copper should never be superior to protecting people, especially our children or environmental. Open-pit mining is dated and only profits the company not the community it destroys and leaves behind. <https://florencecopper.com/about>