

Jeffrey Caballero

Dear ADEQ,

The emergency response plan for this facility is incomplete and fails to account for the safety of Benson residents. Schools, nursing homes, and neighborhoods within a few miles have no clear evacuation or shelter-in-place plans in case of an accidental release, fire, or explosion.

Our fire department is ill equipped to manage an aluminum fire or chemical spill. Due to the nature of the chemicals, they just don't have the proper tools or the staffing to contain a fire or spill of any magnitude.

If you're facing an aluminum fire (a Class D fire), you cannot use water, foam, or standard (ABC) dry chemical extinguishers. These agents can intensify the fire, spread it, or even cause explosions due to the reactions with the burning metal.

There are adjacent properties that store chemicals which can intensify the seriousness of a fire or can even cause the aerialized aluminum to ignite.

We have underground high pressure gas lines in the area that can take out whole communities should an explosion occur.

Rural areas like ours do not have the hospital capacity to handle mass exposure or mass fires. They do not have the specialist needed to treat the many forms of respiratory and skin issues that will occur due to the toxic emissions.

ADEQ should require a detailed, publicly available emergency plan before granting a permit.

We were never informed this plant was coming when we bought our land 2 years ago. Had we been informed, we never would have purchased here. We, the people of the Pima County side of Benson, were never informed and we DO NOT WANT ADI here. If Mississippi is going to reap the benefits, then let Mississippi also deal with the fallout of the toxic waste.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Caballero