

# Gregory Ely

Dear Bernice Manuelito,

Regarding the Rosemont Mine, please do not allow the mining company to police its own work. Everyone knows mining companies don't take care of the environment, and when left to their own devices they'll leave this site a total mess. Not to mention what they'll allow to seep into the groundwater in the interest of saving some pennies for their investors and the board.

As an Arizona citizen I'm quite concerned about the use of the land as well as resulting pollution to an area from extraction corporations against whom I seem to have no individual voice. So, I'm putting my name on the below message from those who are monitoring much more closely. Please don't throw away Arizona's natural heritage to those who won't safeguard it.

Hudbay Minerals' application proposes to use water to convey tailings in a slurry pipeline, operate an unlined tailings facility, leave waste-rock dumps uncovered at closure, and deploy inadequate monitoring systems. The planned processing facilities, including a heap leach for processing significant amounts of acid, will be much closer to Tucson and Sahuarita's municipal water supplies and rural domestic wells than previously suggested.

The current draft permit proposed by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality appears to be dangerously indulgent to the polluter at the expense of people and the environment. That's unacceptable. I request that the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality protects the state's water and public health by including the following stringent requirements in the aquifer-protection permit:

1. Hudbay Minerals must complete an economic and practical evaluation of tailings-storage facilities alternatives, including a lined and dry-stacked facility, among other potential redesigns.
2. Hudbay Minerals must include the entire east pit and the headwaters of small streams near the Broadtop Butte and Copper World pits in the Pollutant Management Area for Copper World's Phase 1, which will provide the best chance of detecting contaminants.
3. Hudbay Minerals must establish two additional point-of-compliance wells to ensure that the east-side aquifer isn't impaired by operations at the east pit.
4. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality must define a minimum frequency of waste-rock acid content analysis for continued operations following the first year.
5. Hudbay Minerals must submit to biannual rather than biennial monitoring of the expanded list of parameters listed in Table 20 in the APP — which will aid in detection of pollutants that may otherwise go undetected for too long and delay an investigation into the pollution and the implementation of a remedy.

Finally, I request better deployment of industry-standard technologies by Hudbay Minerals for minimizing pollution, and I ask that the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality require the additional permit conditions, requirements and agency reviews detailed in the technical comments submitted by Pima County staff to your agency on March 11, 2024.

Sincerely, Gregory Ely AZ 85715-3018

