



NEWS RELEASE

**Arizona House of Representatives
Representative Lupe Diaz (R-19)**

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

Friday, August 2, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Representative Lupe Diaz: Hudbay's Copper World Project Would Boost Jobs and Economic Growth for Arizona

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Arizona State Legislative District 19 Representatives Lupe Diaz, Gail Griffin, and Senator David Gowan have submitted formal comments to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) in strong support of Hudbay's Copper World project and its application for a Class II Air Quality Permit. The legislators emphasized the company's commitment to stringent environmental standards and mining practices, ensuring minimal air quality impacts while promoting economic development.

A copy of their letter in support of the project is attached below.

"Mining has long been a cornerstone of Arizona's economy, providing vital jobs and driving economic growth," said Representative Diaz, Chairman of the House Committee on Land, Agriculture & Rural Affairs. **"The Copper World project is poised to continue this tradition, offering employment opportunities and economic benefits for our community."**

Representative Diaz encourages members of the public to also voice their support for the Copper World project. Public comments can be submitted through the project's website and online portal at: <https://www.miningmattersaz.com>.

Lupe Diaz is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 19 in Southeastern Arizona. Follow him on X/Twitter at @LupeDiaz4AZ.

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Arizona State Legislature

August 1, 2024

Via Electronic Submission

Karla Murrieta, Unit Manager
Air Permits Unit, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
1110 W. Washington St., 3415A-1
Phoenix, AZ 85007,

RE: In the Matter of the Air Quality Permit of Copper World, Inc. (Permit No. 96659)

Dear ADEQ Air Permits Unit Manager, Karla Murrieta:

As members of the House and Senate committees on land and natural resources at the Arizona State Legislature, and representatives of Arizona Legislative District 19, which includes the site of the proposed Copper World project, we write to submit our strong support for Hudbay's application for a Class II Air Quality Permit and respectfully request the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (the "Department") expediently approve and issue the requested permit.

As a mining project that will result in significantly less air quality impacts than those of a "major" source under Arizona Administrative Code Title 18, Chapter 2, Article 101(64), a Class II permit is appropriate for the Copper World project. As you know, Class I permits are intended for large industrial emitters like thermal electric power plants and smelters that emit greater than 100 tons per year of criteria air pollutants. In addition, Hudbay is going above and beyond that which is required by a Class II permit to mitigate dust, protect the public, and ensure a healthy environment for residents of the local community at and around the project site, demonstrating that stricter requirements beyond those of a Class II permit are not required. By issuing a Class II permit, the Department is making the right decision based on its knowledge and understanding of the law.

With nearly 40 years of experience regulating air quality in the famous "Copper State," the Department is fully capable of overseeing the proposed mine and operations through the Class II permit. In fact, according to many, the Department's Air Quality Divisions has one of the leading permitting programs in the nation—likely due to its years of experience with the mining industry specifically since 1987. Any suggestion that the agency is incapable of adequately protecting the environment or the public through the requested Class II permit is unfounded and unconstructive.

As active members of the Mining Stakeholder Group at the Arizona State Legislature, we have complete confidence in the applicant's ability to be a responsible mining operator and quality employer. Hudbay is a highly experienced, multi-national mining company with the technical, financial, and managerial competencies necessary to develop and operate world-class mining operations, which showcase the company's commitment to best management practices and environmental stewardship. Additionally, as a publicly traded company on the Toronto and New York stock exchanges, the company is subject to increased scrutiny from investors and the public, which strengthen the Department's ability to hold the company accountable for complying with all applicable regulations through the Class II permit.

For the foregoing reasons, we urge the Department to issue the requested Class II Air Quality Permit and to count each of our respective signatures as a separate submission for purposes of the Department's review. Thank you.

Respectfully,



Lupe Diaz
Representative, Legislative District 19
Chair, Committee on Land, Ag., & Rural Affairs
Arizona House of Representatives



Gail Griffin
Representative, Legislative District 19
Chair, Committee on Nat. Res., Energy, & Water
Arizona House of Representatives



David Gowan
Senator, Legislative District 19
Member, Committee on Nat. Res., Energy & Water
Arizona State Senate

CC: Karen Peters, CEO, ADEQ
Chad Campbell, Chief of Staff, Office of Governor Katie Hobbs