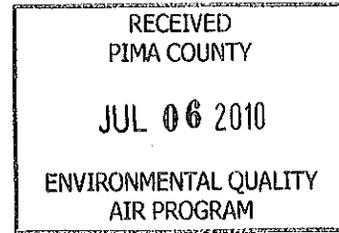


Freeport-McMoRan Sierrita Inc.
6200 W. Duval Mine Rd.
PO Box 527
Green Valley, Arizona 85622-0527



July 1, 2010

Certified Mail: 7006 2150 0004 3661 3929
Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Mukonde Chama
Compliance Supervisor
Pima County Department of Environmental Quality
33 North Stone Avenue, Suite 730
Tucson, Arizona 85701

RE: Notice of Facility Change Allowed Without Permit Revision
Installation of Carbon Adsorption Pilot Plant
Freeport-McMoRan Sierrita Inc., Permit #42862 (Pima County #6067)

Dear Mr. Chama:

In accordance with P.C.C. Section 17.12.230.D, this letter serves as written notification of a facility change allowed without permit revision. Freeport-McMoRan Sierrita Inc. (Sierrita) proposes to install a small pilot plant to examine possible recovery of metals from pregnant leach solution (PLS). PLS is a weak acid bearing copper and other metals.

Date of Planned Change

The startup of the pilot plant is scheduled to occur no sooner than July 23, 2010.

Description of Planned Change

Sierrita proposes to install a small pilot plant in the existing SX circuit for 3-6 months. The pilot plant will consist of carbon adsorption columns, four small mixer-settler tanks, an electric heater and a small electric kiln for regenerating carbon, if necessary. This plant is expected to process 100 gallons of PLS per minute.

This pilot plant will test the feasibility of a carbon adsorption column system for the recovery of non-copper metals from the PLS. A small amount of PLS will be diverted from the Sierrita SX Plant to the pilot plant. The PLS will be pumped through a series of carbon adsorption columns to collect additional metals. The PLS will then be returned to the Sierrita SX plant, and the carbon will be further processed using a small solution extraction system to remove the adsorbed metals from the carbon media to generate a metals solution that can be processed elsewhere for recovery. A small electric kiln will be utilized to regenerate the carbon media to minimize waste.

The pilot study will determine whether carbon regeneration is needed. If so, the electric kiln will regenerate the carbon. No emissions will result from the regeneration. The maximum loading capacity of the kiln is 340 lbs of carbon per day. However, Sierrita does not anticipate the need to regenerate this amount of carbon due to the small size of the plant and the results of initial laboratory testing.

The small solution extraction circuit consists of four small tanks, which will be used to strip metals out of the carbon used in the columns. Conservative estimates for this SX circuit result in negligible VOC emissions of 0.0002 tons per year, and any emissions of hazardous air pollutants will be less than that amount.

Change in Emissions of Regulated Air Pollutants

No increases in regulated air pollutant emissions are expected from this proposed project due to the small size and short operating time frame. Lids will be installed on the four small mixer-settler tanks as required by Section XIII of the Title V Operating Permit for solution extraction activities.

Permit Terms or Conditions No Longer Applicable as a Result of the Change

Not Applicable

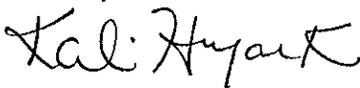
Specific Requirements for Changes without a Permit Revision

The proposed change meets all five criteria listed under Section 17.12.230(A) for changes allowed without a permit revision:

- The change is not a modification under any provision of Title I of the Act or under A.R.S. 49-401.01(24);
- The change does not exceed the emissions allowable under the permit whether expressed therein as a rate of emissions or in terms of total emissions;
- The change does not violate any applicable requirements or trigger any additional applicable requirements;
- The change satisfies all requirements for a minor permit revision under Section 17.12.255; and
- The change does not contravene federally enforceable permit terms and conditions that are monitoring (including test methods), recordkeeping, reporting, or compliance certification requirements.

If you have any questions or require more information, please contact me at (520) 648-8605.

Sincerely,



Kali Hoyack
Environmental Engineer II

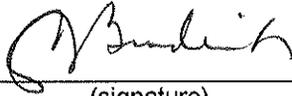
20100701-002

cc: US EPA Region IX, Air Division
Certified Mail: 7006 2150 0004 3661 3936

CERTIFICATION OF TRUTH, ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS

I certify that, based on information and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, the statements and information in this Notice of Facility Change Allowed Without Permit Revision are true, accurate, and complete.

John Broderick, Vice President and General Manager



(signature)

Date: 07/01/10