

EXHIBIT H-1

Aquifer Exemption Description



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL AQUIFER EXEMPTION
FOR

EPA PERMIT #AZ396000001

In compliance with provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, (42 USC 300f-300j-9, commonly known as the SDWA) and attendant regulations incorporated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), the zone located:

- (1) in the subsurface interval of approximately 400 feet to 1600 feet below ground surface (bgs); and
- (2) below the upper aquifer exemption boundary which is 200 feet above the oxide zone, or the base of the Middle Fine-Grained Unit (MFGU), whichever is further below ground surface; and
- (3) above the lower aquifer exemption boundary which is the base of the reactive interval amenable to copper leach solutions, encompassing the oxide zone, which contains an economical amount of copper, and copper in the sulfide zone that is leachable; and
- (4) laterally within 500 feet of the mine zone boundary delineated in Appendix A of EPA Permit #AZ396000001, and within the line connecting the following coordinate system points:

From a point (point 1) in the southwest of the northwest of Section 28, Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona Coordinate system Northing 748028.6 and easting 646937.7

To a point (point 2) in the southeast of the northwest of Section 28, Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona Coordinate system Northing 748042.1 and easting 648619.5

To a point (point 3) in the southeast of the northwest of Section 28, Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona

Coordinate system Northing 747656.9 and easting 648617.4

To a point (point 4) in the southeast of the northeast of Section 28,
Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona
Coordinate system Northing 747675.3 and easting 650811.6

To a point (point 5) in the southeast of the northeast of Section 28,
Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona
Coordinate system Northing 747216.3 easting 650662.8

To a point (point 6) in the southeast of the northeast of Section 28,
Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona
Coordinate system Northing 747230.7 and easting 651548.8

To a point (point 7) in the southeast of the southeast of Section 28,
Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona
Coordinate system Northing 745379.4 and easting 651309.7

To a point (point 8) in the southeast of the southeast of Section 28,
Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona
Coordinate system Northing 745369.4 and easting 651019.1

To a point (point 9) in the northeast of the northeast of Section 33,
Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona
Coordinate system Northing 743926.7 and easting 650758.8

To a point (point 10) in the northwest of the northeast of Section 33,
Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona
Coordinate system Northing 743922.9 and easting 649898.8

To a point (point 11) in the northwest of the northeast of Section 33,
Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona
Coordinate system Northing 743543.9 and easting 649897.6

To a point (point 12) in the northwest of the northwest of Section 33,
Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona
Coordinate system Northing 743520.7 and easting 647281.7

To a point (point 13) in the southwest of the southwest of Section 28,
Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona
Coordinate system Northing 744512.8 and easting 649939.6

To a point (point 14) in the southwest of the southwest of Section 28, Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona Coordinate system Northing 745392.3 and easting 646862.4

To a point (point 15) in the southwest of the southwest of Section 28, Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona Coordinate system Northing 745391.8 and easting 646552.4

To a point (point 16) in the southwest of the northwest of Section 28, Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona Coordinate system Northing 747466.7 and easting 646824.3


To a point (point 17) in the southwest of the northwest of Section 28, Range 9 East, Township 4 North of the GS & R meridian at Arizona Coordinate system Northing 747468.8 and easting 646938.8

is exempted as an underground source of drinking water (USDW).

This aquifer exemption is granted in conjunction with the Class III Underground Injection Control permit issued to BHP Copper, for the injection of an acidic solution for the purpose of copper production at the Florence In-Situ Project, Pinal County, Arizona.

This aquifer exemption has no expiration date.

Signed this 1st day of May, 1997.



Alexis Strauss, Acting Director
Water Division, EPA Region 9