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Request for Current ADEQ Permit Status – EValution Energy Cobalt Processing Facility

Maria Coffee <mariacoffee99@gmail.com>

Wed, Jul 8, 2026 at 5:20 AM

To: Pippenger.Tim@azdeq.gov, app@azdeq.gov

Cc: hazwaste@azdeq.gov, wells@azwater.gov, javier.barraza@yumacountyaz.gov, airpermits@azdeq.gov

Bcc: "vlimmeroth@juno.com" <vlimmeroth@juno.com>

Dear ADEQ Permitting Team,

I hope you are doing well.

I am reviewing the publicly available documents related to the proposed EValution Energy cobalt processing facility in Wellton, Arizona, and I am trying to better understand the current status of ADEQ's environmental review and permitting process.

I have attached the Yuma County Special Use Permit (SUP22-08). The attached documents state, among other things, that:

- Groundwater is the prospective source of makeup water for the facility.
- The property is located within the Wellton-Mohawk Sub-basin of the Lower Gila aquifer.
- ADEQ indicated that additional project information would be required to determine applicable air-quality permitting requirements.
- ADEQ also noted that permits would be required for any discharge to land with the potential to impact the aquifer.

Since these documents were prepared in 2022–2023, I understand that additional engineering work and groundwater investigations have been conducted.

I would greatly appreciate your assistance with the following questions:

1. What is the current status of ADEQ's review of the EValution Energy cobalt processing facility?
2. Has ADEQ received the additional engineering and technical information referenced in the county documents?
3. Has ADEQ issued, or is it currently reviewing, any of the following permits for this project?
 - Air Quality Permit
 - Aquifer Protection Permit (if applicable)
 - Wastewater-related permits
 - Solid Waste permits
 - Hazardous Waste permits
4. If permit applications have been submitted, are they available for public review? If so, could you please direct me to where they can be accessed?
5. Has ADEQ received the results of the groundwater investigation and test well, or are those evaluations still pending?

If there are additional ADEQ staff members or other agencies involved in the review or permitting of this project who would be better suited to answer any of these questions, I would appreciate it if you could forward this request to the appropriate individual(s) or let me know whom I should contact directly.

Thank you very much for your time and assistance. I appreciate any guidance you can provide.

Kind regards,

Maria Coffee

One of a group of concerned Yuma County residents



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