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ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE RECOMMENDS MINOR FIXES IN APPEAL OF FLORENCE COPPER'S PERMIT

Florence, Ariz. (Oct. 1, 2014) – Florence Copper Inc. announces that Judge Milhasky, the administrative law judge (ALJ) assigned to case no. 12-005-WQAB in the Arizona Office of Administrative Hearings, has made a recommendation in the appeal of the Arizona Department of Water Quality (ADEQ) decision to issue a Temporary Individual Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) to Florence Copper Inc. Judge Milhasky's order is a non-binding recommendation to the Water Quality Appeals Board (WQAB), which will make the final determination on the permit.

The ALJ explicitly stated that Florence Copper's proposed Production Test Facility (PTF) will not have any impact on the drinking water wells in the Town of Florence, nor will it impact the wells owned and operated by Johnson Utilities located northwest of the project. Overall, the ALJ recommendation is supportive of the PTF moving forward with additional monitoring.

The ADEQ's APP requires permittees to meet stringent water quality standards and demonstrate that they are using the best available technology to control solutions discharged to an aquifer. The program has been protecting Arizona's aquifers for over 25 years.

"The ALJ sustained only a limited number of the issues raised in the appellants' complaint," said Dan Johnson, vice president and general manager of Florence Copper Inc. "We are confident that we can address each of the issues identified in the ALJ's recommendation to the WQAB. Most of these remaining issues involve additional monitoring requirements and geochemical analysis which have already been addressed in our pending Underground Injection Control permit application before the EPA, and we believe that the Water Quality Appeals Board will take this into consideration when it makes the final determination on the permit."

"Although we are disappointed that the judge chose to take the unwarranted step of recommending rescission of the permit even when the appellants' sole expert witness did not make such a recommendation, we are pleased she agreed Florence Copper's PTF will not have an impact on local sources of drinking water," said Rita Maguire, Florence Copper's executive vice president and general counsel.

Florence Copper has always been committed to the highest level of regulatory protection. Once final permits are received, the Company intends to move forward with the PTF, which will be a test program demonstrating to local residents and regulators that in-situ copper recovery is a safe and technically advanced method of copper recovery.

About Florence Copper Inc.

Florence Copper is engaged in the final stages of permitting for the Phase 1 Production Test Facility for an in-situ copper recovery project in Florence, Arizona. The PTF includes a 24-well in-situ recovery well field and a state-of-the-art solvent extraction/electrowinning plant that will produce copper cathode. The PTF will assist in the demonstration of the science and safety of the in-situ process and provide an opportunity for the public to fully



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engage and understand this modern copper extraction technology. Concurrently, Florence Copper continues to advance engineering, testwork, environmental studies and permitting for Phase 2 commercial operations. For more information about Florence Copper and its projected economic impacts and benefits to the local community, please visit www.florencecopper.com. Sign up to receive more information at [News and Updates](#).

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