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Pima County Board of Supervisors

To: Melissa Manriquez, Clerk of the Board

From: Matt Heinz, Supervisor, District 2

Date: January 14, 2026

RE: 1/20/26 Addendum Agenda: Communicating the Board's Opposition to HUDBAY Copper World Project to All Relevant Parties

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Please add this to the 1/20/26 Addendum Agenda. Thank you.

Board of Supervisors

Discussion/Direction/Action: Directing the County Administrator to communicate the Pima County Board of Supervisors' continuing opposition to the HUDBAY Copper World project – including transmitting a copy of the Board's *Resolution 2025-49: Resolution of the Pima County Board of Supervisors Reaffirming Opposition to the Proposed Copper World Project,* passed October 21,2025 *(attached)* – to relevant regulators, other stakeholders of HUDBAY, and other relevant parties.

cc: Jan Lesher, Pima County Administrator
Steve Holmes, Deputy County Administrator
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator

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RESOLUTION NO. 2025-49

RESOLUTION OF THE PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REAFFIRMING OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED COPPER WORLD PROJECT

WHEREAS, in January 2007, the Pima County Board of Supervisors approved Resolution No. 2007-15 opposing the proposed Rosemont Mine in the Santa Rita Mountains because of the significant impacts the proposal would likely have on the area's natural and cultural resources;

WHEREAS, in April 2019, Pima County Board of Supervisors approved Resolution No. 2019-28, reaffirming Resolution 2007-15 opposing the Rosemont Mine, and considering Rosemont Copper Company's failure to address the County's concerns regarding the significant impacts the proposal would likely have or to offer sufficient mitigation for those impacts;

WHEREAS, in June 2022, Pima County Board of Supervisors approved Resolution No. 2022-32 reaffirming Resolution 2007-15 and Resolution 2019-28 after plans were announced to develop portions of the mine on the west side of the Santa Rita Mountains on private land east of Sahuarita and Green Valley and south of Corona de Tucson, and the name of the project was changed to Copper World;

WHEREAS, the proposed Copper World Project ("Project") includes the construction of up to five open-pit mines as well as new waste rock and tailing storage facilities, processing facilities, and associated infrastructure such as new haul roads and new water production wells;

WHEREAS, the proposed Project would cause irreparable harm to the network of ephemeral streams in and around the project area, as well as downstream perennial waters, including Cienega Creek, an Arizona Outstanding Water, and aquifers that contribute to Tucson's groundwater;

WHEREAS, the Project is proposing to pump thousands of acre feet of water a year from wells adjacent to the Santa Cruz River, significantly increasing groundwater withdrawals from the Tucson Active Management Area with minimal replenishment in the area of withdrawal;

WHEREAS, the Project will likely drastically increase heavy truck traffic across the unpaved portion of Santa Rita Road, and correspondingly drastically increase the amount of fugitive dust released into nearby communities, which may result in exceedances of the health standards for particulate matter that could lead to a nonattainment area designation by the Environmental Protection Agency against Pima County;

WHEREAS, the air permit issued to Copper World by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality does not regulate fugitive dust pollution generated from Project traffic on the dirt roads outside of the Copper World facility boundaries because it is outside of the boundaries of the proposed project facilities;

WHEREAS, the proposed Project would result in significant harm to the County's Maeveen Marie Behan Conservation Lands System and associated wildlife habitat including habitat for threatened and endangered species;

WHEREAS, the proposed Project would have significant destructive impacts on cultural and archaeological resources known to occur in and near the area of the Project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Pima County Board of Supervisors reaffirms its opposition to the proposed Project;

2. The Board of Supervisors directs the County Administrator and staff, as federal, state, and local authorities allow, to:

    a. Provide information to other entities as needed to document the County's continuing concerns about the impacts of the proposed Project as the Project evolves;

    b. Take all necessary measures to protect the health, safety, and welfare of residents of, and visitors, to Southern Arizona using or enjoying County infrastructure and resources affected by the Project;

    c. Take all necessary measures to protect the health, safety, and welfare of people using the air and water resources affected by the Project;

    d. Take all necessary measures to protect County Conservation Lands, and all lands within the Maeveen Marie Behan Conservation Lands System, that may be affected by the Project;

    e. Actively advocate at the State and Federal level against the Project, including the Project's proposed acquisition of 160 acres of State Trust land, that will facilitate the development of mine tailings near residential homes and the Copper Ridge Elementary School.

Passed, adopted and approved, this 21 day of Oct., 2025.

OCT 21 2025

Rex Scott, Chair
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Melissa Manriquez, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Bobby Yu, Deputy County Attorney