

AJO CONNECTS: CPP HIGHLIGHTS Q2 2026



This newsletter provides updates from our recent Community Partnership Panel. It is part of our commitment to keeping the community informed about site activities and fostering open and ongoing dialogue.

Learn more about our commitment to communities:

[Freeport In My Community](#)

IN THIS EDITION...

Operations: [Facilities and Asset Management](#), [Wastewater System Improvements](#)

Environmental: [Wildfire Management](#)

Social Performance: [Freeport's 2026 Grant Programs](#)

SITE OPERATIONS UPDATE

Employment Update

Proudly Creating
Better Futures

Learn more about the wide range of career opportunities available at Freeport:
[FMJobs.com](#)

Additional Updates

- Infrastructure and Utilities

- Completed power infrastructure upgrades, including replacement of poles, transmission lines and transformers at the Ajo Airport and Golf Course.
- Electrical upgrades nearing completion with final outages and tie-ins scheduled through mid-June.
- **Tailings and Water Management Infrastructure**
 - Tailings impoundment inspections and repairs completed following stewardship review, strengthening readiness ahead of monsoon season.
 - Additional stormwater basin improvements planned, with earthwork scheduled later in the summer.
- **Facilities and Asset Management ✓**
 - Planned removal of trestle over Highway 85 (pending permits).
 - **Trestle Q&A:**
 - Question: Why is the trestle over Highway 85 being removed?
 - Answer: It is an aging structure that is no longer expected to be used in any future mining scenario, so removal reduces long-term liability.
 - Question: If mining resumes, would the trestle still be needed?
 - Answer: It would not be used; any future mining scenario would rely on different infrastructure.
- **Wastewater System Improvements ✓**
 - Sewer sludge removal project approximately two-thirds complete, expected to continue through July with the pond returning to service by late summer.
 - This work represents long-term system maintenance improvements at the site.
 - The wastewater system operates through aeration and evaporation, with disinfection prior to final evaporation.
 - **Water Q&A:**
 - Question: Is reclaimed water currently used in Ajo?
 - Answer: No reclaimed water system is currently in place; the system relies on evaporation.
 - Question: Will reclaimed water use be implemented in the future?
 - Answer: There is no internal communication, understanding or engineering designs regarding transitioning towards reclamation of water at this time.
 - Question: Is water used in town or on the golf course reclaimed?
 - Answer: Water used for irrigation at the golf course is untreated with no option for a treated water connection. Reclaimed water is not yet available for this site.
- **Exploration Activity**
 - Direct Current Induced Polarization (DCIP) survey test phase completed; production phase on hold pending equipment

SITE ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

- **Wildfire Management** ✓
 - A Wildfire Mitigation Plan has been submitted to the state and is currently in public comment.
 - A public meeting regarding the Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) is scheduled for June 10 to support community engagement. This meeting is solely for public comment regarding the AIC submitted Wildfire Mitigation Plan.
 - **Wildfire Q&A:**
 - Question: What is the wildfire mitigation plan and how can the public engage?
 - Answer: Due to the increasing risk of wildfires associated with electric utilities, the state of Arizona now requires utility companies, biennially, to assess, create, submit, and ultimately implement a WMP that would manage these risks. This is a statutory requirement with public review providing legal protection through compliance. AIC's plan can be reviewed at [Wildfire Mitigation Plan Program | Department of Forestry and Fire Management](#)

SOCIAL PERFORMANCE UPDATE

A Conversation on Community

Introducing Cory Stevens. Cory, Senior Vice President, President and Chief Operating Officer – Freeport Americas, shares why community partnerships matter and how working alongside local organizations helps create lasting, positive impact where we operate. Watch his message [here](#).



Global Volunteer Month

Each year, Freeport employees come together to support their communities for Global Volunteer Month. Volunteer projects focus on biodiversity and skill-based learning opportunities, reflecting the company's commitment to **Proudly Creating Better Futures**. Each site organizes events tailored to local needs. This year, AIC volunteered with United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona for the Summer Library.

Freeport's 2026 Grant Programs ✓

Community Investment Fund

The Community Investment Fund is driven by three priority areas:



Education & Workforce Development

Resilient People

Early Education | K-12 | Higher Education | Workforce Development | STEM | Community Education & Support



Economic Opportunity

Resilient Economies

Health | Safety | Housing | Environmental | Small Business Support | Access to Food | Economic Development | Cultural Heritage & Arts | Community Infrastructure



Capacity & Leadership

Resilient Organizations & Systems

Training & Skill-Building | Community & Emergency Planning | Citizen Engagement & Participation | Organization Governance & Effectiveness

Application Opens:

May 13, 2026

Application Closes:

June 26, 2026

at 5 p.m. AZ time

Awards Announced:

Nov. 20, 2026

Mini-Grants for Education

Designed to support K-12 teachers and schools in communities where Freeport has an operational presence.

**Application
Opens:**

July 6, 2026

**Application
Closes:**

Sept. 4, 2026

at 5 p.m. AZ time

**Awards
Announced:**

Oct. 30, 2026

Women's Development Grants

Support organizations providing women and girls opportunities to advance educational attainment, create and expand businesses, and increase financial capability and employment through education and/or workforce skills training.

**Application
Opens:**

Sept. 2, 2026

**Application
Closes:**

Oct. 9, 2026

at 5 p.m. AZ time

**Awards
Announced:**

Dec. 4, 2026

Community Investment

- Ongoing support for education, youth programming, preschool funding, and community events such as the Fourth of July.
- Continued investment in economic resilience through small business and entrepreneurship support.

Social Investment Fund Highlights

- **Kickstart Ajo Presentation**
 - Kickstart Ajo is a community-driven small business program designed to reduce startup risk and strengthen Ajo's local business ecosystem. The program provides financial and technical support, including matched savings (most utilized), grants, loans, branding/marketing assistance, and building improvements. Highlighted in the presentation, Kickstart Ajo:
 - Supports workforce development through internships that help businesses test hiring, while building skills and experience for local youth.

- Makes an impact locally, as demonstrated by success stories like the Prickly Pear Baker. This bakery expanded operations, increased capacity and mentors students—leading to both economic growth and community development.
- Continues to expand through partnerships with local organizations, with the next funding cycle expected to open soon to increase participation.

GRIEVANCE MANAGEMENT

Freeport maintains a formal Grievance Management System allowing community stakeholders to share concerns directly with company officials. Learn more about our Grievance Management process at [FreeportInMyCommunity.com](https://www.freeportinmycommunity.com).

The topics of concern received included

- N/A

Grievance Report

Q1 2026: 0

YTD Active: 0

YTD Closed: 0

Previous Year Active: 0

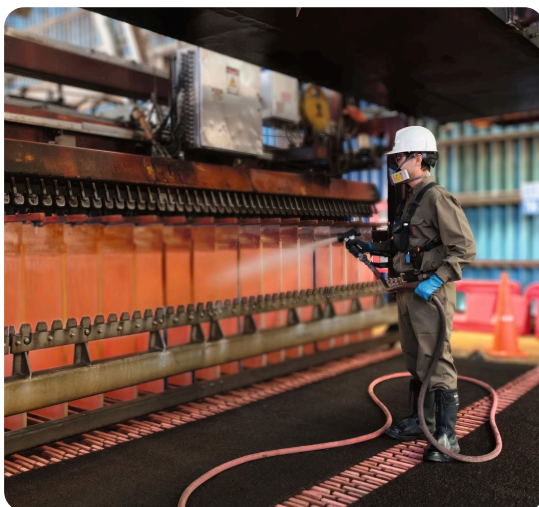
Community Information & Grievance Line

To share a grievance, ask a question, or request information, please call:

(877)629-2609

24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

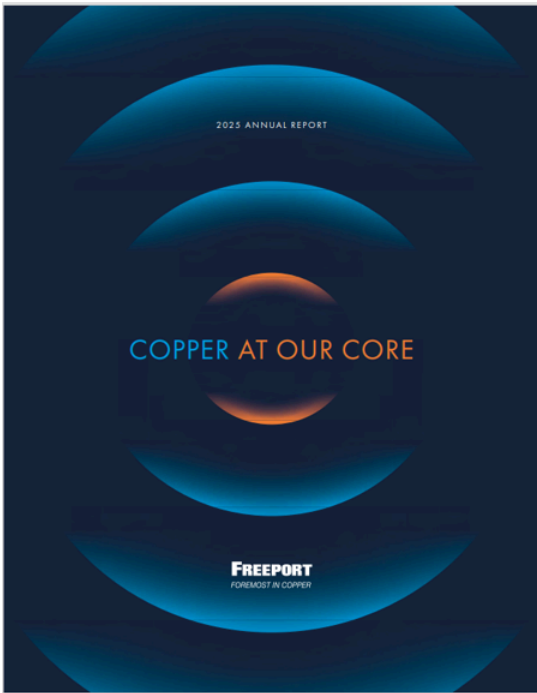
COMPANY UPDATE



Freeport Reports First-Quarter 2026 Results

[Read more](#)

[2025 Reports Now Available!](#)



The 2025 **Annual Report** and **Sustainability Report** are now available. Click the images or visit [FCX.com](https://www.fcx.com) to learn more.

We want to hear from you!

We value your feedback. Please share your thoughts on the CPP by completing this quick survey.

[CPP Feedback Survey](#)

Thanks for reading! Join us for the next CPP: **September 3, 2026.**



Freeport-McMoRan

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