

# Safford Connects: CPP Highlights Q1 2025

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Freeport-McMoRan is committed to keeping the community informed about operational activities and to foster open and ongoing dialogue to develop thoughtful solutions and address community issues.

This *CPP Highlights* newsletter has been designed to provide updates from our recent Community Partnership Panel.

## Company Updates

"We enter 2025 with a clear focus on continued strong execution of our operating plans, enhancing productivity, managing costs and capital, and advancing opportunities for long-term profitable growth and value creation... Copper's role in the global economy is increasingly important and Freeport is well positioned for the future as a global industry leader."

*-Richard Adkerson, Chairman of the Board, and Kathleen Quirk, President and Chief Executive Officer*



### Freeport Reports Fourth-Quarter And Year Ended 2024 Results

[Read more](#)

**Ask the Experts:  
Water Strategy**



**Water Strategy Presentation**

At the Q4 2024 CPP meetings, we asked CPP members to share questions they had about Freeport’s water strategy. Using those questions as a basis, Sandy Fabritz, Freeport’s Director of Water Strategy, joined Q1 2025 CPPs to share the company’s water strategy, including key information on water supply, water stewardship and water policy. Below, a slide from this important conversation. After the presentation, CPP members were asked what they felt was the most important aspect of Freeport’s water strategy. Water reuse, recycling and conservation were the most common responses.

[Click here](#) to read Freeport’s latest Sustainability Report.

**FCX GLOBAL WATER MANAGEMENT GOALS:**

- 1 **Optimize:** water use efficiency in our processes
- 2 **Minimize:** use of new freshwater at our operations by transitioning to renewable, recycled and/or lower-quality water sources
- 3 **Monitor:** our impact on the surrounding communities and environment by continually reviewing our water supplies
- 4 **Evaluate:** new technologies and innovations for large-scale tailings management and leaching that can support reduction of future water requirements

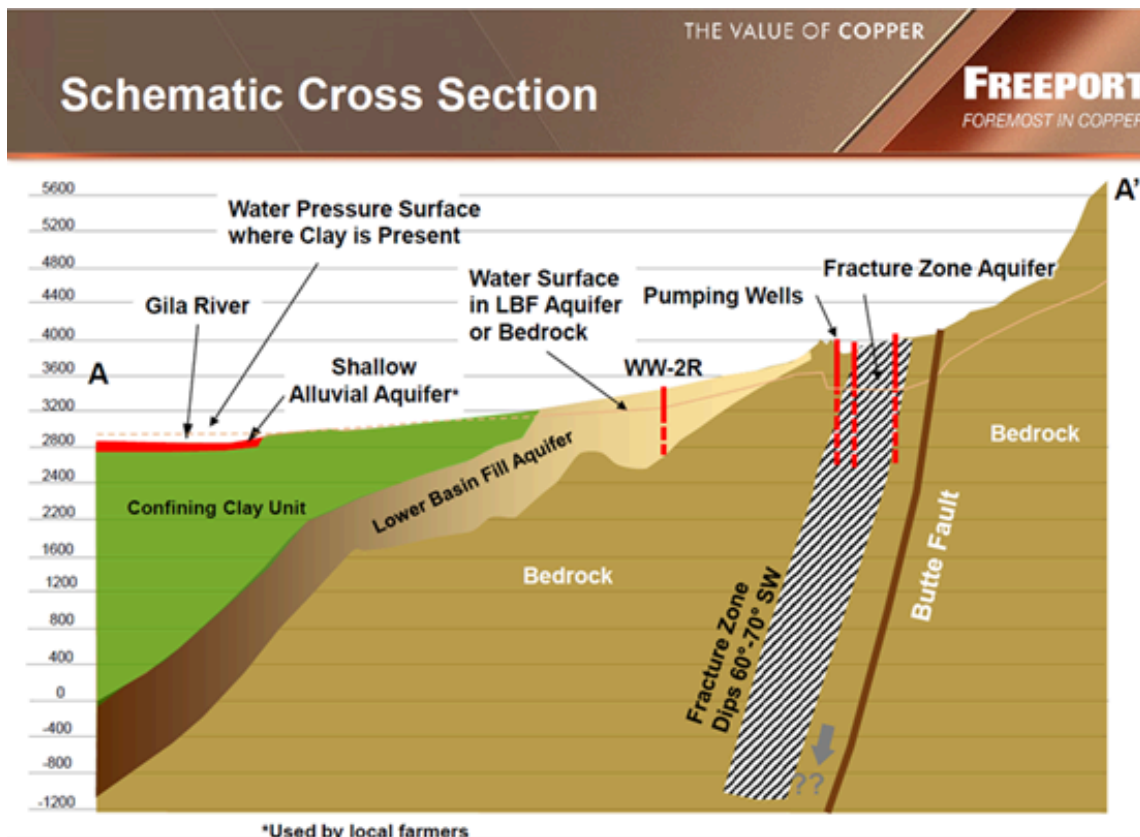
We utilized  
**5X MORE**  
recycled water  
than new water  
in 2023.

**89%**  
water use  
efficiency  
in 2023.



As responsible water stewards, we focus on minimizing our impacts on shared resources, while supporting the long-term resilience of our operations, host communities and the environment.

## Safford Water Strategy



## Safford Water Supply

Safford operations water supply comes from groundwater wells in two distinct aquifers as illustrated in the photo – the Fracture Zone aquifer and the Lower Basin Fill aquifer. Both of these aquifers are distinct and isolated from the Shallow Alluvial Aquifer which is adjacent to the Gila River.

### **Safford Recycled Water**

Safford recycles approximately 93% of the water used each year on average.

Examples of internal recycling within the processing facilities include:

- Use of in-pit dewatering for dust control on haul roads.
- Closing unneeded roadways, reducing or eliminating water usage for dust prevention.

**Freeport's 3M Program (Models, Monitors and Mitigates)**, initiated in the early 2000s, hydrogeologic conclusions from 2024 include:

- The Fracture Zone (FZ) aquifer is the mine's main water supply source, supplemented by Lower Basin Fill (LBF) groundwater.
  - No water from the Gila River, shallow alluvial aquifer, or other sources is pumped to the mine.
- Area hydrogeology isolates the FZ and LBF aquifers from the shallow alluvial aquifer used by local farmers, showing no measurable effect on the shallow alluvial aquifer.
- Freeport mitigates 200 acres/year through fallowing, benefiting the Gila River by 480 Acre Feet per year.

Evaluation results from 2023 monitoring show predicted and actual water levels are adequately represented within the model which indicates that mitigation efforts do not need to be adjusted at this time.

Freeport coordinates with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) on the 3M Program. USGS's role includes:

- Semi-annual field visits to measure groundwater levels and advise on proper data collection protocols.
- Analyzing, approving, and storing groundwater level data in the National Water Information System (NWIS).
- Providing technical feedback and comments on the annual 3M Report.
- Maintaining a public website with access to data and reports on Safford Mine Groundwater Monitoring. Groundwater monitoring found on [this website](#).

### **Conservation**

Safford operation's 2025 water opportunities include:

- A new booster system, expected to be operational in the summer of 2025, will increase Crush and Convey dust control efficiency.
- The RoadPro Dust Suppressant (initiated in 2022) for light vehicle roads will continue.
- The Large Mine Water Truck Tracking and Application Control System (2025 evaluation) supports more efficient use of dust control on roads with

heavy equipment.

# Site Operation Updates

## Employment Update



Proudly Creating  
Better Futures

**Proudly Creating Better  
Futures.**

Learn more about careers at Freeport-McMoRan  
at [FMJobs.com](https://www.fmcjobs.com)

**Employment:** 1,610

**Vacancies:** 110

**Contractors:** 324

*\*Numbers are an approximation based on date of meeting*

Safford's staffing is stable at just above 1,600 employees due to increased hiring and headcount over the last few years.

At Freeport, we responsibly produce the metals the world needs for a better, more sustainable future. Here, you can build an exciting career while creating a better future for all.



## Operations Update

Safford is set up for a strong 2025, benefiting from recent process improvements and investments to increase maintenance reliability and process efficiencies, and with two capital projects coming online in 2025:

- Lone Star Phase II Leach Pad Construction: Project is nearly complete with commissioning planned for April and provides additional stacking area



for the site's copper production forecast.

- Fine Ore Stockpile: Scheduled to be completed in late 2025, this facility will increase surge capacity creating an ore feed buffer for crushed leach stacking operations.

## Environmental Update

### Air Quality Permit Update

Safford currently operates under a Class II Synthetic Minor Air Quality Permit, issued in 2007. Due to growth and potential expansion opportunities, Safford submitted a Class I Air Quality Permit application to ADEQ in December 2024. ADEQ has already begun stakeholder engagement efforts and the permitting process will include a Public Notice Period anticipated later in 2025.

### Safford's Biodiversity Events

Safford operations is participating in several Biodiversity activities in early 2025:

#### February 20-22: Gila Valley Health & STEAM Festival

- 4th grade outreach at EAC Thatcher Campus, including pollinator activity and burrowing owl conservation awareness.
- Community outreach at EAC Discovery Park Campus, featuring burrowing owl conservation and owl pellet dissection.

#### March 8 and 15: Burrowing Owl Habitat Projects

- Local volunteers and students will help repair and build owl habitat in advance of the release of burrowing owl pairs.

#### March 27: STEM Day at Eastern Arizona College

- Focused on regional high school students with activities like wildlife/vegetation identification and a dam-building contest.

## Social Performance Updates

**SOCIAL  
PERFORMANCE  
MATTERS**

Learn more about social  
performance at:  
[FreeportInMyCommunity.com](https://FreeportInMyCommunity.com)

## Community Investment Fund

The goal of the CIF is to boost the community's overall resilience and ability to respond to risks and opportunities, supporting long-term prosperity. Learn more [here](#). Information about 2025's application timeline below. We encourage applications!

### Community Investment Committee

- Three-year term and three days minimum time commitment

- Help in determining Community Investment Fund Allocation for organization in Graham County, Safford, Thatcher and Pima

**Timeline:**

- Application only, no letter of intent
- True Impact Forecast completed only by those awarded funds
- *May 14: Application Opens*
- *June 27: Application Closes (5 p.m. AZ time)*

**Priority Areas:**

- Education + Workforce Development
- Economic Opportunity
- Capacity + Leadership

## Community Investment Fund Spotlight

**Shelter of Hope - Society of St. Vincent De Paul (\$100,000 grant)**

Freeport works collaboratively with the Shelter of Hope to support work that builds trust and drives resilience. The funding supported repairs and provided resources to help individuals meet their basic needs. This investment by the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation aligns with our objective to build capacity and leadership in our communities.

## Social Investment Updates

Safford operations is proud to partner with local organizations to bring valuable resources and programming to our community. Safford operations supported the following initiatives and projects in the 4th quarter of 2024:

- **Safford Lions Foundation** | 2024 Field of Honor sponsorship
- **Graham County Fair Junior Livestock Auction** | Livestock purchases\*
- **Eastern Arizona College** | Diesel Technology Program Grant
- **Graham County Chamber of Commerce** | Audience Marketing Data Software Grant
- **Angel's Closet Clothing Bank** | Mobile Food Pantry and Clothing Bank project
- **San Carlos Apache Tribe** | Tourism Initiatives Project
- **San Carlos Apache Tribe** | Veterans Day Fair & Rodeo Walk/Run Event

\*Freeport purchases livestock and donates the meat to community food banks.

*Transforming tomorrow together*



We shared a first look at the newest *Social Performance Year in Review* during the CPP meeting. Click [here](#) to view the full document!

## United Way



Each year, we partner with United Way to raise funds for a vast network of nonprofit agencies working to advance the common good.

### Safford Campaign Highlights

**32%**  
EMPLOYEE PARTICIPATION (%)

**\$596,000**  
ESTIMATED EMPLOYEE PLEDGE

**\$999,000**  
ESTIMATED FREEPORT MATCH

Freeport-McMoRan matches employee contributions.

For donations of \$25 or more, the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation will double match the first \$1,000 contributed and single match any amount more than \$1,000 (up to an annual maximum of \$40,000).

## Resilience Plan

The Graham County Resiliency Plan's goal is to move forward strategic actions to mitigate risks and enhance overall community resiliency. The Resilience Team is moving into phase two of the Plan after taking specific actions around economy, water, housing, mental health and nonprofits. Learn more [here](#).

## The Copper Mark

The Copper Mark is an assurance framework that incorporates best international practices developed to demonstrate the copper industry's responsible production practices. Producers participating in the Copper Mark are committed to adhering to internationally recognized responsible operating practices. Freeport has achieved, and is committed to maintaining, the Copper Mark and Molybdenum Mark at all of its sites globally.

Freeport-McMoRan Safford operations was audited by a team from Ernst & Young the week of March 3, 2025, to verify that the site meets the Copper Mark 2.0 framework requirements. **Thank you** to our community partners who participated in the stakeholder interviews in support of the audit effort! We appreciate your time and feedback to our continuous improvement. For more about the Copper Mark, please visit [CopperMark.org](https://CopperMark.org).

## 2025 Arizona Rural Policy Forum

Save the date for the 2025 Arizona Rural Policy Forum on from August 6 – 8. Please register in the spring because tickets sell out fast! [2025 Arizona Rural Policy Forum](#)

# Grievance Management

## Grievance Report

Learn more about our Grievance Management process at [FreeportInMyCommunity.com](https://FreeportInMyCommunity.com)

Freeport-McMoRan maintains a formal Grievance Management System allowing community stakeholders to share concerns directly with company officials. No complaints or topics of concern were received in Q4 2024.

Q4 Received: **0**

2024 YTD: **0**

YTD Active: **0**

YTD Closed: **0**

Previous Year Active: **1**



## Freeport-McMoRan 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.

# Community Feedback

The CPP serves as a resource to share company updates, but just as importantly, it serves to solicit input from communities related to concerns, opportunities and local priorities. 📌

## What is the difference between a Class I and Class II permit?

- Class I is a larger permit allowing Safford operations to pursue possible expansion activities and the addition of equipment to our Air Quality permit. Safford is outgrowing its current permit and has accepted voluntary emission limits to maintain the Class II permit that was first issued in 2007.
- Class I Permits are issued to any source that meets certain requirements, such sources include: any major source, defined as any source that has the potential to emit in an amount greater than or equal to 100 tons per year of any criteria air pollutant. A source is also considered major if actual or potential emissions is at or above 10 tons per year of any single Hazardous Air Pollutant or 25 tons per year of any combination of Hazardous Air Pollutants
- Class II Permits are issued to sources that do not qualify for Class I permits and that meet certain requirements. Such sources have the



potential to emit in an amount greater than or equal to significant quantities of regulated air pollutants.

**Is the rate of Fracture Zone water level decline stable?**

- While the results by individual monitoring wells vary, the overall trend shows a relatively constant rate of water level decline in the Fracture Zone aquifer over the period of record we have.

2025 CPP Feedback Survey



**We want to hear from you!**

We value your feedback. Please share your thoughts on the CPP by completing a quick survey using this QR code, or this [link](#).

Thanks for reading! Join us for the next CPP: May 14, 2025

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