



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ASARCO Earns Governor's OK to Continue Cleanup Talks

Tucson, AZ – Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano today requested that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provide six additional months for ASARCO LLC (Asarco) to finalize its agreement with EPA and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) to address environmental remediation issues at the Company's Hayden Smelter.

Napolitano's action came in response to EPA's request for the Governor's position on the potential listing of the Hayden site on the Superfund National Priorities List. EPA has not completed its Remedial Investigation of the Hayden area, nor shared its final conclusions with the Company or the public.

Last week, Asarco made a written commitment to negotiate a legally-binding judicial decree with EPA and ADEQ under which Asarco would assume – at its own cost and effort – responsibility for conducting any necessary studies and remediation at the Hayden site. “We believe this approach is the best way to conduct the cleanup quickly, efficiently and with the least adverse impact on the affected communities,” said Doug McAllister, Asarco's Executive Vice President and General Counsel.

“We are extremely pleased to have earned the Governor's support to continue the process we have begun with EPA and ADEQ,” McAllister continued. “Asarco is committed to doing the right thing for Hayden and our family of employees there. We are eager to finalize the agreement and start work on the remediation process.”

“We are grateful for the Governor's leadership on this issue as well as the active engagement of Representative McGuire, state agencies, county supervisors, mayors, city council members and others, especially union leaders and our own labor force, who have played such key roles in this process,” McAllister stated. “We will certainly continue to seek their counsel and advice as we move forward.”

ASARCO is a Tucson-based integrated copper mining, smelting and refining company. For more information, visit <http://www.asarco.com>.

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