UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

NOV 30 2017

Mr. Edwin S. Townsley
Chief, Operations and Regulatory Division
South Pacific Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
1455 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94103-1398

Subject: EPA Analysis of Hudbay Minerals' *Final Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan Permit NO. SPL-2008-00816-MB Rosemont Copper Project* (HMMP) dated September 12, 2017

Dear Mr. Townsley:

On September 14, 2017, the South Pacific Division (SPD) requested EPA's review and technical comments on the subject HMMP. EPA Region 9 provided our review via email on October 5, 2017, reiterating our ongoing commitment to assist SPD with the project or discuss our review. On October 18, 2017, SPD requested permission to share EPA's interagency deliberative analysis with the applicant so they might address comments or further modify the HMMP. Attached are the documents you requested in a form suitable for public release. As with prior EPA reviews, we continue to find the permitted activities of the proposed mine will significantly degrade Cienega Creek, Davidson Canyon, and their tributaries despite the actions proposed in the HMMP.

Please refer your technical team to Elizabeth Goldmann at (415) 972-3398 with any questions, or call me directly at (415) 972-3409.

Sincerely,

Nancy Woo
Associate Director
Water Division

Attachments: EPA Analysis of the Rosemont Mine HMMP dated November 30, 2017
EPA Impact Analysis of the Rosemont Mine dated November 30, 2017
EPA Groundwater Impact Analysis of the Rosemont Mine dated November 30, 2017

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