

October 21, 2024

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality 1110 West Washington Street Suite #160 Phoenix, AZ 85007

Subject: Supporting Arizona's Helium Operators and its Downstream Industries

To Whom It May Concern:

The Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the Arizona Manufacturers Council are deeply invested in the continued advancement, stability, and economic prosperity of Arizona. As a hub for advanced industries such as semiconductors, technology, manufacturing, defense, and healthcare, Arizona is uniquely positioned to benefit from a critical resource: helium.

Helium is crucial for various applications, including cooling in semiconductor manufacturing, leak detection, protective gas in metal fabrication, MRI equipment, aviation thrust components, and more. If properly leveraged and allowed for extraction, Arizona's reserves represent a significant opportunity for economic growth, job creation, and increased state revenues.

Securing a stable helium supply is essential not just for maintaining Arizona's competitive edge but also for ensuring national self-reliance. With the semiconductor sector rapidly expanding, helium plays a critical role in ensuring the stability and growth of this industry. As Arizona's economy continues to thrive, a streamlined and efficient process for helium extraction will be key to maintaining a steady supply. Arizona's reserves can play a pivotal role in meeting both state and national demand while supporting the growth of downstream sectors.

We appreciate the strides your administration has made in positioning Arizona as a leader in innovation and industry. We encourage you to continue these efforts by supporting policies that permit and streamline helium extraction. With a responsible and sustainable approach, Arizona can solidify its place as a leader in the global supply chain, benefiting industries that rely on this resource every day.

We look forward to supporting your administration's efforts in this area and working together to ensure Arizona remains at the forefront of innovation and economic development.

Sincerely,

Danny Seiden

President & CEO

Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Grace Appelbe Executive Director

Arizona Manufacturers Council