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# MEMORANDUM

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Date: February 15, 2022

To: The Honorable Chair and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Leshner   
Acting County Administrator

Re: **Response to Inquiry about Becton Dickinson - Update on the Requested Air Quality Permit**

Supervisor Grijalva recently inquired whether incentives were offered by Pima County or other agencies to attract Becton Dickinson and Company to Tucson. As previously noted, Pima County declined to offer any County-owned properties for consideration as a potential location for the facility. I can also confirm that Pima County did not offer any incentives to Becton Dickinson. Pima County staff has also inquired with Sun Corridor Inc. and the City of Tucson to determine whether they offered incentives. Both have indicated that they did not.

Sun Corridor further reported that the initial inquiry was received from the Arizona Commerce Authority for a confidential client in the medical device industry. Sun Corridor provided Tucson market information to assist in a real estate site search by an outside independent commercial real estate broker. Becton Dickinson toured the Tucson market, along with several other U.S. market locations. The company selected the site near Valencia and Kolb Roads as the one that best met their needs with no incentives being provided.

The Pima County Department of Environmental Quality (PDEQ) is continuing its evaluation of the requested Air Quality Permit, which is the only aspect the County has authority over. PDEQ recently updated the draft Air Quality Permit in response to input received on [December 17, 2021](#) from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The revised draft permit has been provided to the EPA and the agencies are working together on further refinements to the permit language. Additionally, PDEQ updated the Environmental Justice Analysis (EJA) as recommended by EPA. The updated EJA is posted on the PDEQ air quality permit [webpage](#).

PDEQ will continue its interactions with EPA until a final version of the permit is completed. Prior to finalization, PDEQ will post responses to all received permit comments on their website. It is anticipated that responses will be published within the next two weeks.

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works  
Yves Khawam, PhD, Assistant County Administrator for Public Works  
Barbara Escobar, Interim Director, Environmental Quality Department