



# AZGS-ADMMR merger fact sheet

Arizona Geological  
Survey  
www.azgs.az.gov

## HB2584

## Merger of Arizona Dept. of Mines & Mineral Resources with Arizona Geological Survey

House Bill 2584, introduced as part of the Governor's Consolidation Plan, will merge the Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources (ADMMR) into the Arizona Geological Survey (AZGS), under the direction of the State Geologist, effective December 31, 2008.

AZGS is headquartered in Tucson, with a branch office in Phoenix, co-located with ADMMR. ADMMR includes the popular Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum and the Mineral Information Center.

### The two agencies have complementary missions:

State statutes direct **ADMMR** to promote and advocate development and production of mineral resources through:

- Field investigations, public seminars, publications, conferences, and mineral displays;
- Participating in conferences, seminars, forums, public

outreach;

- Providing technical information and assistance;
- Conducting studies of properties and claims;
- Maintaining a repository of mineral and mining information;
- Providing quality data on promoting mineral development to government bodies;
- Making surveys of potential economic resources;
- Conducting field studies that attract investment to the state;
- Monitoring mining and exploration activities;
- Cooperating with the Corporation Commission relating to the sale of mining securities.

Statutes direct **AZGS** to work in similar areas of mineral resources:

- Provide information on the state's geologic character and mineral resources.



ADMMR's Mining and Mineral Museum in Phoenix.

- Inform, advise and assist the public in matters concerning development and use of the states mineral resources.
- Encourage the wise use of the state's lands and mineral resources toward their development.
- Provide technical advice and assistance to other governmental agencies on mineral resources of the state.
- Provide technical advice and assistance to industry toward the wise development and use of the mineral and land resources of the state.

### Agencies profiles:

*The ADMMR statutory mission will be unchanged.*

*The AZGS statutory mission will be unchanged.*

*The AZGS Phoenix branch office will be housed in the ADMMR building.*

*ADMMR reports to a board appointed by the Governor; AZGS reports directly to the Governor.*

*ADMMR has 8 FTEs (7 state-funded) with a FY08 budget of \$1.35 million.*

*AZGS has 26 FTEs (12.5 state-funded) with a FY08 budget of \$2.56 million.*

*More than 40,000 people visited the Mining & Mineral Museum in 2007.*

## Build a world-class museum, cut costs, improve service

The Mining and Mineral Museum is one of the premier such institutions in the western U.S. but has lacked the resources to reach its full potential. Arizona is the number one mining state in the nation and deserves a world-class museum that showcases the role and impact of minerals in our economy and history. We can make the Mining and Mineral Museum one of the most exciting and premier attractions in Phoenix.

Following the merger, the combined agencies should have some economies of scale and be better able to meet the state's needs for

good reliable information on minerals, mining, and geology. We are presently two of the smaller agencies in state government. The combined agencies in the longer term will be a more effective voice in mining and mineral resource matters across the state.

There are current concerns about duplication of effort and resources – in particular, that our data archives and libraries should be integrated.

A combined geological-engineering approach to mining and mineral resources will better serve the state.

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- ADMMR traces it's beginning to the first Arizona Fair in 1884.
- The Arizona Geological Survey grew out of the Office of Territorial Geologist in 1888, became a founding component of the University of Arizona in 1891, where it was long named the Arizona Bureau of Mines, and became an independent state agency in 1988.