



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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RECEIVED

OCT 11 2017

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

October 4, 2017

Arizona Department of Water Resources  
Attn: Thomas Buschatzke, Director  
1110 W. Washington Street, Ste. 310  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Sent via Email and US Post Mail

**RE: Resolution No. 17-3175-Opposition of Proposed Transactions Initiated by the Central Arizona Water Conservation District to Transfer Colorado River Water to the Central Arizona Project**

Dear Director Buschatzke:

Enclosed is Lake Havasu City, Arizona, Resolution No. 17-3175 opposing proposed transactions initiated by the Central Arizona Water Conservation District to transfer Colorado River water to the Central Arizona Project. These transactions facilitate the transfer of Colorado River water currently allocated by U. S. Bureau of Reclamation contracts to on-river users (Town of Quartzite and Mohave Valley Irrigation and Drainage District) to central Arizona.

If these transactions are approved, it will set into motion a precedence of long-term Colorado River water diversions to central Arizona of water that was originally intended and set-aside for mainstem use. These transactions could negatively impact mainstem, local economies as water supplies are increasingly diverted away from the river.

We respectfully urge your support in this vital matter.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Nexsen  
Mayor, Lake Havasu City

**RESOLUTION NO. 17-3175**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAKE HAVASU CITY,  
MOHAVE COUNTY, ARIZONA, OPPOSING THE PROPOSED TRANSFERS OF 4TH  
PRIORITY COLORADO RIVER WATER TO THE CENTRAL ARIZONA WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT FROM THE TOWN OF QUARTZSITE AND LANDS  
SITUATED IN THE MOHAVE VALLEY IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT**

**RECITALS:**

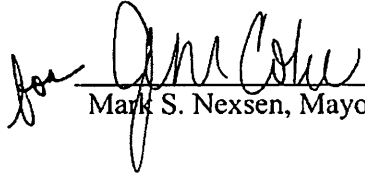
1. Lake Havasu City recognizes that water is one of the most precious resources, which is in jeopardy of being depleted if not managed adequately. Both Mohave and La Paz Counties previously received disaster drought designations by the United States Department of Agriculture, intensifying the concern. Raids of water rights and allocations from smaller river communities to benefit metropolitan areas sets a bad precedent and places the water supplies of rural areas at risk.
2. The Town of Quartzsite and Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) recently entered into a long-term lease to transfer Quartzsite's 1,070 acre-feet of 4<sup>th</sup> Priority Colorado River water to Central Arizona. Quartzsite and CAWCD filed an application for transfer with the Arizona Department of Water Resources.
3. CAWCD's Board will consider at its October meeting a proposed Purchase and Sale Agreement to Acquire Water Rights and Farmland in Mohave Valley Irrigation and Drainage District (MVIDD) from various landowners. The \$34 million transaction includes the acquisition of 2,125 acres of land and the accompanying water rights consisting of 2,500 acre-feet of present perfected rights and 11,429 acre-feet of 4<sup>th</sup> Priority Colorado River water.

**IT IS RESOLVED** by the Mayor and City Council of Lake Havasu City as follows:

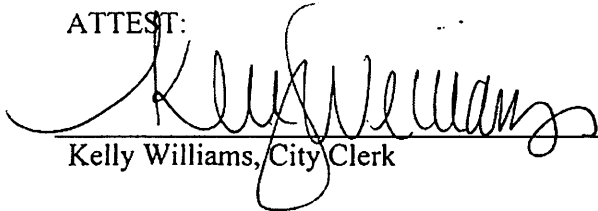
1. The proposed CAWCD Lease Agreement with Quartzsite and CAWCD Purchase and Sale Agreement to Acquire Water Rights and Farmland in MVIDD with various landowners to transfer 4<sup>th</sup> Priority water off the Colorado River mainstem is of critical concern to Lake Havasu City and the long range water future and economy of 4<sup>th</sup> Priority mainstem communities.
2. Lake Havasu City specifically opposes the proposed transfers of 4<sup>th</sup> Priority water off the mainstem to CAWCD and generally opposes any transfer of Colorado River from Mohave County to central Arizona.
3. Copies of this Resolution shall be provided to the City's Federal and State legislators, the Governor of Arizona, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Arizona Department of Water Resources, and the Mohave County Water Authority.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of Lake Havasu City, Arizona, on September 26, 2017.

APPROVED:

  
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Mark S. Nexsen, Mayor

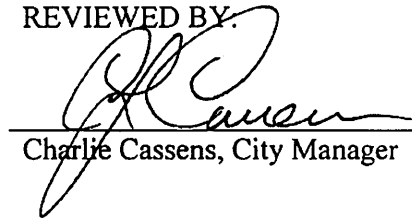
ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kelly Williams, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kelly Garry, City Attorney

REVIEWED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charlie Cassens, City Manager