



November 29, 2017

Mr. Thomas Buschatzke, Director
Arizona Department of Water Resources
1110 W. Washington, Suite 310
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: Purchase and Sale Agreement for CAWCD to Acquire Water Rights and Land in
Mohave Valley Irrigation and Drainage District, Mohave County, Arizona

Dear Director Buschatzke:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Lake Havasu Area Chamber of Commerce and our 670 members that employ over 20,000 Mohave County residents. During the Board's meeting yesterday evening, there was a unanimous vote of the members present to oppose the proposed purchase by the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) of land and water rights of the Colorado River in our county. As you are aware, this water needs to stay in Mohave County for use by rural Arizonans for future community and economic development. There are 207,000-plus residents of Mohave County and our county is expected to grow over the next 25 years, especially in Lake Havasu City. (www.population.az.gov). The water in question needs to remain where it is to meet the needs of our growing communities.

The Mohave County Board of Supervisors has passed two resolutions opposing the permanent transfer of any Colorado River Water Rights and Allocations to the Central Arizona Water Conservation District for use in the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District, the first regarding the Quartzsite transfer and the second regarding the Mohave Valley Irrigation and Drainage District (MVIDD). Additionally, the Lake Havasu City Council has passed a resolution to oppose water transfers out of our county.

Public policy dictates that 4th priority Colorado River water allocated to the users on the mainstream of the river, such as the MVIDD. This is a part of the water that the State of Arizona requested be reserved for municipal and industrial uses along the river. CAWCD has received all of Arizona's Colorado River entitlement remaining at the time that CAWCD and the United States government entered into their initial agreement in 1972 except for that small reservation of 4th priority river water. That water was allocated as part of the division of water for the mainstream users and water for the central Arizona users. Moving it to central Arizona defeats the purpose for which it was reserved – and that was to provide water as stated above – for municipal and industrial use along the Colorado River.

LAKE HAVASU AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

314 London Bridge Road
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

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Mohave County has no representation on the CAWCD. It has come to our attention that there is talk within CAWCD that a three county conservation district be formed and the Chamber also opposes this initiative. Our members have no desire to see three urban counties with a larger tax base have the power to divert waters from rural counties along the river. The residents of Mohave County are here by choice and we should not be punished for living outside of the metropolitan areas; instead, we should be applauded for responsible growth and planning in our rural regions.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Krueger".

Lisa J. Krueger, IOM, ACE, CTA
President & CEO

cc:

CAWCD Board of Directors

Lisa Atkins
Alexandra Arboleda
Jennifer Brown
Karen Cesare
Terry Goddard
Benjamin Graff
Jim Hartdegen
Jim Holway
Pat Jacobs
Mark Lewis
Rodney Lewis
Heather Macre
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Parker Area Chamber of Commerce
Yuma County Board of Supervisors
Yuma County Chamber of Commerce
Kingman City Council
Kingman Area Chamber of Commerce
Bullhead City Council
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