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Subject: Opposition to MVIDD Water Transfer
Date: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 9:30:24 PM

FROM: Remmington G. Bishop
251 N Friendship Pass
Kingman AZ

December 6, 2017

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

TO: The Honorable Douglas A. Ducey
Governor State of Arizona
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

I am sending this email letter to advise you that I and many of our community are strongly opposed to the proposed that would enact the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) land and water purchase to move Colorado River water, prudently set aside for rural Arizona Colorado River mainstream users, to central Arizona for replenishment. The process of moving the limited water resources supporting one area of Arizona to another area should not be the game plan of the Water Augmentation Council to secure water supplies for Arizona's future. Literally robbing Peter to Pay Paul is not a fair plan to manage the water shortage in one area (with the most power and representation) at the expense of another area with far less political cover power/protection and little if any representation. You and your office is supposed to represent, protect, and manage resources for the entire state of Arizona. The rural areas of the state (95% or so of the state) are also struggling with their water future.

As you may recall, the Mohave County Board of Supervisors 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 – first as to the Quartzsite transfer and second as to the WPI-WAN transfer in the Mohave Valley Irrigation and Drainage District.

Here is why I and the members of the Citizens for Progress oppose this purchase and transfer of our water:

First, as a matter of public policy, 4th Priority Colorado River water allocated to the users on the mainstream of the River, such as Mohave Valley Irrigation and Drainage District ("MVIDD") in this case, should not be transferred away from mainstream of the River. This is part of the water that

the State of Arizona requested be reserved for municipal and industrial uses along the River. Except for that small reservation of 4th Priority Colorado River water to the users on the mainstream, CAWCD received all of Arizona's Colorado River entitlement remaining at the time that CAWCD and the United States entered into their initial agreement in 1972. That water was allocated long ago 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: to provide water for municipal and industrial users along the Colorado River.

Second, also as a matter of public policy, we do not support and will oppose by all means a three-county conservation district using its superior taxing power to provide \$34 million in funds to buy and divert water from our rural Arizona county. Mohave County has no elected representation on the Central Arizona Water Conservation District Board, and it appears three urban counties with a larger tax base are set to divert waters from rural counties.

Third, the recent initiation of your Water Augmentation Council was charged and responsible for investigating long-term water augmentation strategies, initiating additional water conservation opportunities, and identifying funding and infrastructure needs to help secure water supplies for Arizona's future. We feel confident that council was set up by you in your name, funded, and staffed to accomplish these lofty goals for all of Arizona's future. This proposed solution does not meet that standard and is beneath the dignity we expect of your office and our state government.

The Groundwater Users Advisory Councils of the Phoenix, Pinal, Prescott, Santa Cruz, and Tucson AMAs should be looking for their own county funding resources to support conservation and water recharge/replenishment projects for ground water and annual snow pack/rainwater flows within their own borders and not state cashflow solutions at our county's expense.

Sincerely,

Remmington G. Bishop
Co-Chairman
Citizens For Progress (CFP)
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928.377.5762

CC: CAWCD - Lisa Atkins (President), Alexandra Arboleda, Jennifer Brown, Karen Cesare, Terry Goddard, Benjamin Graff, Jim Hartdegen, Jim Holway, Pat Jacobs, Mark Lewis, Rodney Lewis, Heather Macre, Sharon Megdal, Pamela Pickard, Mark Taylor
ADWR - Director Thomas Buschatzke, Sharon Scantlebury, Docket Supervisor