



January 6, 2021

Tom Buschatzke, Director  
Arizona Department of Water Resources  
Attn: Sharon Scantlebury  
P.O. Box 36020  
Phoenix, AZ 85067-6020

**Re: Potential Legislation Authorizing the Colorado River Indian Tribes to Market its Colorado River Water Entitlement**

Director Buschatzke:

Representing the ten municipalities of Avondale, Chandler, Gilbert, Glendale, Goodyear, Mesa, Peoria, Phoenix, Scottsdale, and Tempe, the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA) supports federal legislation and agreements that would allow the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) to lease, exchange and/or store a portion of its consumptively used water rights off reservation in Arizona.

First and foremost, this potential legislation and its associated agreements mark an important step in advancing equity among Arizona water users by granting CRIT the authority needed to make use of its water rights, just as other water users and tribes have done for decades.

In addition to the cultural and economic benefits that will be realized by the CRIT, this legislation also has the potential to generate significant benefits throughout the State. In the face of a drier future, partnerships with the CRIT could potentially bring additional Colorado River water into Central Arizona to help reduce unsustainable groundwater withdrawals and minimize the inevitable impacts of Colorado River shortages within the Phoenix Active Management Area.

AMWUA is eager to add its voice of support for the proposed legislation for the Colorado River Indian Tribes.

Sincerely,

Warren Tenney  
Executive Director

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**Arizona Municipal Water Users Association**