

November 17, 2022

Arizona Department of Water Resources

ATTN: Mr. Tom Buschatzke, Director

1110 W. Washington Street, Suite 310, Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: Opposition to Hualapai Basin INA request

Dear Mr. Buschatzke,

I am forwarding this letter to formalize my opposition to the implementation of an INA for the Hualapai Basin. I have reviewed the ADWR study which has been the focus of the presentations to the Mohave County general public in both October, 2022 and most recently in November, 2022. This review has undeniably confirmed that the study has utilized over-reaching water use consumption data, which is blatant and knowingly false and which data have been used to direct public opinion and mis-guide our elected officials. The verification of the incorrect data, and the targeted use of same, are very alarming to me. We collectively have the responsibility to best manage our resources and we can only do that when dealing with facts. As a landowner in the Hualapai Basin, a 33- year City of Kingman resident, and as a business owner for the last 25 years in Mohave County, I am offended by the lack of due diligence completed for such a magnanimous issue.

Having stated the above, I am also certain that there is a limit to the resources available in this basin for all uses. The balance of economic uses, the comprehensive use of water conservation methods and actions, and greater efforts to get a founding document which contains as much truth as we can gather, will best position us to move forward in an unfettered manner. I am encouraged by the recent ADWR mission to review each of the State basins once every five years. This is a significant task but will focus on continued analysis and assessment to best manage each of the basins, which are the responsibility of the State, per Statute. Combined with the water uses is a direct correlation to the economic impacts and benefits that the same water use projects. In the case of agricultural water uses in the Hualapai basin, the last 3-5 years have brought in over \$145,000,000 in economic infusions into this area, as well as the utilization of over 50 local vendors. Local employees, local supply chains, local vendors for services and fuel, local hotels for seasonal employees, trucking services, etc confirm the agricultural entities are a significant economic impact and the water use is beneficial to the entire region.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Hualapai Basin INA question. I remain opposed to the INA because there is no factual data containing justification for an INA, nor has there been an honest effort on behalf of the local governments to gain factual data. In the next ten years, should there be a justification to restrict private property land uses and impose water use restrictions I would strongly support the designation of an AMA, or similar designation to ensure all water users were included in water conservation programs.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Tackett-Hicks