
Tony Reed
Company Name

[REDACTED]
Kingman, AZ 86401

[REDACTED]
Fax
[REDACTED]

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Sharon Scantlebury
Arizona Department of Water Resources
1110 W. Washington, Suite 310
Phoenix, AZ 85007
sscantlebury@azwater.gov

Sonny Borrelli
Kyrsten Sinema
Paul Gosar
Mark Kelley
Leo Biasiucci
John Gillette
Enclosure:

Hello,

My name is Tony Reed. I am representing myself and my wife Audrey Albrecht. We are new residents to Kingman. We are concerned about water security in our new home, here in Hualapai Valley. I am a retired Aerospace Engineer, and Audrey is a retired Real Estate agent. I offered brief comments and support for the INA at the Formal Hearing in Kingman, on November 12, 2022. I wanted to further elaborate as below.

As I said, my wife and I support the INA, for now, to get more data and information on the actual rates of withdrawal, and changes in water level. This will enable better modelling and projections.

Further, it will provide a pause, and a period in which we can all consider multi-faceted solutions going forward. We want to not just assure water availability for 100 years, but sustainable use for many hundreds of years.

To that end, it seems we must consider options to enhance recharge, conserve use, consider alternate sources, consider legislation to throttle outflows, and finally, consider alternate financial structures to benefit all users.

The CEO of Nestles is infamously on record saying, “Water is not a human right.” We find this ideology repugnant. Similarly, T. Boone Pickens felt that, “Water is too cheap.” He proceeded to manipulate the laws in Texas to allow him to drill into the Ogallala Aquifer, and transfer the water to a holding area, to sell at a higher price, to neighboring towns as that area of the aquifer was depleted. At a 4X withdrawal to recharge rate, are we far behind?

I prefer to acknowledge that the pumping, transfer, and treatment of water is not free, but should be managed cost effectively by a Public Utility, adequately capitalized by Baby Bonds, and supported by legislation.

This brings us to the 300 lb. Bigfoot in the room, the very lax Arizona water laws that allow Very Large Commercial Growers with Non-US entities as their ultimate progenitors, to use as much water as they want, grow everything from alfalfa to pistachios, and sell them overseas. We do not necessarily want to vilify such behavior, but the ultimate result is clear. Without modification, the rapacious use of resources will result in a depleted aquifer and the end of Local Growers and Residents. We have a unique opportunity to work together with those entities to craft a viable sustainable financial structure for this aquifer, that serve as a model across the US and other countries. That structure might include tariffs, levees, and fees. I might prefer to think of another class of baby bonds that would support the Utility and its required infrastructure to benefit all the stake holders.

We would like to see regularly scheduled workshops to address all of these and other related aspects of this issue, from hydrology findings, to proposed recharge and conservation measures, to legislation and financial structures.

We would like to thank the ADWR and USGS for the wonderful and fascinating Hydrology Report and Modelling efforts.

Sincerely,

Tony Reed

The following are some questions that ADWR may want to incorporate into the Hydrology Report presented 11/12/2022:

How long does it take for water to get from the surface, say with rain, to the Aquifer(s)?

Is there an estimate of how much water is NOT recovered from the recharge areas shown?

Is there a ranking in % efficiency of natural vs other techniques for recharging aquifers such as settling ponds, pump injection, etc.?

What are the various recharge methods?

Concerned mandatory reporting is only annual. Is there a way to get data daily/weekly/monthly/quarterly?

Hats off to the Growers that provide voluntary data. Can we also increase frequency?

There seems to be a list of all wells, with gpm capacities. Can those captured by the INA be identified? Can those not captured because of acreage limits, <55 acres, be identified, and given special attention?

We have some voluntary reporting. Can we undertake an outreach program to any wells not captured by the INA and not voluntarily reporting?

Obviously, we'd like to implement some enhanced recharge method/location, and have the data to judge the timing and efficacy of the measure.

Have there been local studies, like the 1964 Parson's Engineering Plan, that already map/detail measures for enhanced water security?