Responses to public comments from June 25th ARC meeting

Comment: When the new Guidelines take effect, will every organization represented on the ARC have an entitlement to either Colorado River water or Central Arizona Project water? What is their stake in the outcome of the Interim Guidelines?

Response: The ARC is a broad representation of Arizona’s water users and policy makers, including elected officials. The ARC Delegates represent many sectors and interests, including:

- Members of both chambers of the Arizona Legislature, including members of both political parties and staff.
- Representatives of agriculture, municipal, and industrial sectors of both On-River and CAP water users.
- Tribes using both On-River and CAP water.
- The Arizona Water Banking Authority, the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District NGOs, and the United States.

Almost 40% of Arizona’s water supply comes from the Colorado River. Colorado River water and CAP water are delivered and used in Mohave, La Paz, Yuma, Maricopa, Pinal, and Pima Counties (and Graham and Greenlee via exchange). The 2007 Interim Guidelines and the future operating rules resulting from the reconsultation process will likely affect almost all Arizonans. Additionally, renegotiation of the 2007 Interim Guidelines may require consideration of Arizona water policies and will likely necessitate legislative authorization. Therefore, it is critical to have the participation of representatives of a variety of Arizona water users, as well as lawmakers, regardless of entitlement.

Comment: Hello, thanks I have two questions:
1) What criteria will be used to judge the effectiveness of the 2007 Guidelines during the 7.D. process?
2) What role does the determination of the effectiveness or non-effectiveness of the 2007 Guidelines process play in the reconsultation process?

Response: These questions were answered by Bureau of Reclamation's Carly Jerla during the first ARC meeting on June 25, 2020. Please visit ADWR’s or CAP’s webpages to view her presentation that begins at 00:32:22 of the recording.

Comment: What does a stakeholder do if their ARC delegate refuses to represent their interests, share their concerns, or advocate their positions? What is the recourse within the "sector"?
Response: The ARC roles and responsibilities require all delegates to represent their agencies as well as their constituents. All delegates take membership on the ARC seriously, including being responsive to the constituencies they are selected to serve. The current approach, asking delegates to represent the interests of their constituencies, was successful in the Drought Contingency Plan Steering Committee process. If a stakeholder perceives that their delegate is not giving their concern appropriate attention, they may voice their concern during the public comment portion of any ARC meeting.

Comment: How can an entity/person volunteer/sign up to participate on the Modeling and Analysis workgroup?

Response: The membership of the Modeling and Technical Analysis Work Group is offered to the ARC delegates. Each delegate may select a representative to participate in the Modeling and Analysis Technical Workgroup. The meetings are open to the public, so anyone may listen to the meetings and ask questions or offer input as part of the call to public. Information on the Modeling and Technical Analysis workgroup will be posted on both the ADWR and CAP’s websites.