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Warren Miller
13230 N. Cedar Dr.
Sun City, Arizona 85351
623-974-3779

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May 24, 2001

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ

AZ CORP COMMISSION
Arizona Corporation Commission DOCUMENT CONTROL
DOCKETED

MAY 30 2001

Re: Sun City Water Company

DOCKETED BY VL

Dear Commissioners:

My name is Warren Miller, a Conservation Technician retired from the United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, and a long-time resident of Sun City, Arizona.

As you probably know, the State of Arizona will have an historic event take place today, May 24, 2001. The groundbreaking for the Agua Fria River Recharge Project, a state-sponsored recharge facility benefiting the entire northwest valley.

The State of Arizona will benefit from the construction of this project, but the most benefit will be the target areas of the northwest valley. They will benefit by receiving 100,000 acre/feet per year of Colorado River water to recharge the aquifer of the total existing and rapidly growing areas. The estimated \$11 million construction cost will come totally from an \$.04 tax already collected on property up until 1996.

Tom Harbour, Engineer/Geologist and Project Supervisor for the Central Arizona Project, has been given full authority for the past three years to develop a complete, detailed plan for construction. Mr. Harbour was also given the assistance of a "small army" of proven recognized specialists to assist him. All questionable aspects of the project have been checked and tested to verify it will perform as intended. The benefit area includes Sun City, Sun City West, and the cities of Peoria, Surprise, Youngtown and Glendale. In time, the benefit area is expected to increase dramatically.

For the past three years, the Northwest Valley homeowners have been told the concept of recharge was investigated by engineers and found not to be a viable choice because the subsoil in the need area was too tight to permit water to travel more than a few feet per year. Based upon my review of the data developed in connection with the development of the Agua Fria River Recharge Project and my independent review of the soil information gathered by well drillers in the area, I declare this statement to be false, misleading and very damaging to all concerned.

The most damage is to imply the only practical solution is to install a pipeline to deliver CAP water to Sun Cities golf courses; thus conserving aquifer water. Except the Sun City Water Co. will still be pumping the aquifer and has plans to pipe this aquifer water to sell to neighboring developments. Sun City Water Co. is a member of the replenishment district and by not pumping aquifer water to the golf courses that leaves more aquifer water to pump to new developments. In the end, no water will be "saved" at all.

I am attaching my discovery proof the Aqua Fria River Recharge Project will most surely give rapid benefit to the aquifer under the Sun Cities. This will stop the area well water decline, and in short time start raising the total area aquifer level. This practical assumption is based on the review of evidence of actual soil types of the subsoils from 18 well drill logs on record at the Arizona Department of Water Resources. I chose records of wells from 14 different well drill companies that had State permits and licensed to be accepted professional well drill companies. I chose scattered wells to "paint" a true picture of subsoils in the necessary areas. The wells are located on the attached map. I am also sending you a soil profile of each well. This soil analysis proves the logical assumption of rapid water percolation at the Recharge Impound site, and that water will travel freely and rapidly the 3.5 mile

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distance and 500 foot vertical drop from the impound to Sun City's present aquifer. The entire pipeline concept was justified on faulty assumptions that water stored in the Aqua Fria Recharge Project would not reach the Sun City communities for decades. We now know this to be false.

It is obvious the Engineering reports that have been so heavily relied on by so many to choose the best method to use surface water to benefit the area aquifer did not include a study of the actual subsoils in the area. This is most unwise and unprofessional.

Anyone who cares about finding the truth and providing maximum benefits at the least cost to the Sun Cities should consider these soil logs. One must question the wisdom or motives of those who advocate the construction and operation of a very expensive pipeline without fully considering this information. I firmly believe that if this information is fully and fairly considered, the costs and benefits of the proposed pipeline can not stand up against the costs and benefits of participating in the Aqua Fria River Recharge Project.

It is sad that I need to make this report to you.

Sincerely,



Warren Miller

cc: Docket Control

Attachments: Soil Analysis prepared by Warren Miller
Aqua Fria River Recharge Project Map - Projected 1-foot Groundwater Level Rise Contour