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a municipal water users association

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By _____

Commissioner William Mundell, Chairman
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCUMENT CONTROL

Re: Endorsement of Arizona-American Water Company's Sun Cities Groundwater Savings Project (ACC Docket Nos.: W-01656A-98-0577; SW-02334A-98-0577)

Dear Commissioner Mundell:

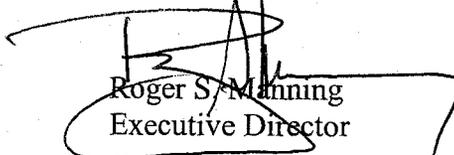
Since 1998, the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA) has followed the significant efforts of Citizens Water Resources (now Arizona-American) and the Sun Cities community to develop a consensus plan to use the CAP water allocated to the Sun Cities to reduce the significant groundwater overdraft problem in the area.

Over the last two decades, the AMWUA members (Chandler, Gilbert, Glendale, Goodyear, Mesa, Peoria, Phoenix, Scottsdale, and Tempe) have spent many millions of dollars to construct the water treatment and distribution infrastructure necessary to enable direct use of CAP water and reduce groundwater use to safe-yield levels. In return for a secure, sustainable, and renewable water supply for the future, the water rate payers in these communities are paying, in most cases, significantly higher water rates than rate payers in the Sun Cities.

Considering the requirements of Arizona's Groundwater Management Act and the current drought conditions, the proposed Sun Cities Groundwater Savings Project provides a relatively low-cost way for the community to directly use its CAP water allocations. Implementation of this project will reduce groundwater pumping at the golf courses and reduce the significant water level decline rates facing the Sun Cities/Youngtown area. AMWUA endorses and supports the Sun Cities Groundwater Savings Project and urges the Corporation Commission to approve this important community water resources project.

Thank you for your consideration in this important matter.

Sincerely,



Roger S. Manning
Executive Director

C: Commissioner Jim Irvin
Commissioner Marc Spitzer

Arizona Corporation Commission
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