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Nancy Moschcau

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From: "Nancy Moschcau" <nancym3@frontiernet.net>
To: <mayer-web@cc.state.az.us>
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2006 12:04 PM
Subject: Rhodes Development in Mohave County

Kris -

I am sending you under separate cover a newspaper article in one of Kingman's local papers (4/19/06) stating that "White Hills developer receives OK to build golf course, 25,000 homes." I believe this was for the developer by the name of Mardian.

The subheadline reads "Arizona Department of Water Resources determines 100 year adequate water supply."

Another article on the same page of the paper refers to Rhodes which reads "Rhodes Homes confident about surging on after fellow developer receives initial approval."

I would appreciate it very much if you would e-mail me on any new development concerning this new housing projects so that I can relay them to the Kingman Republican Women's Group.

I thoroughly enjoyed listening to you at the workshop last Saturday at the AFRW Quarterly.

Nancy Moschcau, President
Kingman Republican Women

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5/8/2006

Heather Murphy

From: Super Country News [k99news@citlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2006 4:16 PM
To: Heather Murphy
Subject: Fw: guenther
Attachments: "AVG certification"

----- Original Message -----

From: Super Country News
To: The Standard
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2006 11:48 AM
Subject: guenther

Rapid-paced growth in an environment where demand may exceed a limited water supply creates a number of challenges and questions in Mohave County according to Herb Guenther, Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR).

"I think your situation in Mohave County is bringing attention to the fragile nature of assigning water supplies that eventually will be exhausted," Guenther said. "And to that degree, I imagine there are a number of policymakers both in the state legislature and in local government that are reconsidering their policies."

The problem is, according to Guenther, that many developments propose to rely on water supply from relatively dry basins and aquifers. "And by that I mean that some have more capacity than others but they all receive very little recharge," Guenther said.

The ADWR, in aquifer supply scenarios, issues determinations of water supply sufficiency when developers prove there exists a 100 year water supply for their projects.

"We are actually permitting the mining of water so the next question that comes to mind is what happens at the end of 100 years?" Guenther asked.

"When you start assigning rights to that limited resource obviously you're going to run out of that resource sooner or later. So if you're going to continue to grow in that kind of an environment, you're going to have to bring additional water supplies to the region."

A pair of leading local water conservation advocates spoke to the issue when the Arizona Corporation Commission recently conducted a public input session in Kingman. Jack Ehrhardt and Earl Engelhardt urged abolishment of the 100 year standard, suggesting instead that projects be approved only when developers can prove continuously available water supply.

Ehrhardt used the term "water in perpetuity" while Guenther said state officials use "sustainable yield" to refer to the same concept of long lasting supply.

Heather Murphy

From: Super Country News [k99news@citlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2006 4:17 PM
To: Heather Murphy
Subject: Fw: water for white hills
Attachments: "AVG certification"

----- Original Message -----

From: Super Country News
To: The Standard
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2006 1:55 PM
Subject: water for white hills

A Las Vegas businessman working to develop a masterplanned community in northwest Arizona has cleared a major project hurdle by earning an initial determination of adequate water supply by the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR).

Leonard Mardian has been informed that the agency has concluded that his application has proved an adequate 100 year water supply for the golf course and 25,000 homes he plans to build at his Ranch at White Hills, about 40 miles south of Hoover Dam. "We're very happy about that," said Mardian spokesman Brian Tassinari.

The ADWR has sent Mardian a letter indicating it is satisfied that his application has proved he has more than enough groundwater to serve estimated demand of 7,976 acre-feet per year at full build-out. The agency said Mardian must subsequently prove that his proposed Double Diamond Utilities Company will be able to deliver suitable water to serve the development that he sees as a bedroom community for many who will commute to work in southern Nevada.

"This just provides an initial determination that the groundwater is available," said ADWR spokesman Jack LaVelle. "They can begin to plat their subdivisions and they have to obtain an adequacy report for each plat."

Mardian essentially beats fellow Las Vegas developer Jim Rhodes in earning an initial 100 year water adequacy determination. Rhodes has a similar application pending for his 20,000 home Village at White Hills development that would pull water from the same Detrital Basin aquifer.

The ADWR will now consider the water Mardian intends to use as committed from the basin, meaning the agency will measure Rhodes' application knowing that almost 8,000 acre feet of water per year is now committed to the Mardian project.

"What this is is a placeholder for the Ranch at White Hills," said ADWR Director Herb Guenther. "This establishes priority for their construction in the aquifer above 1,200 feet for the development they specified."

"This is certainly a significant hurdle that Mardian has cleared," said county Planning and Zoning Director Chris Ballard. "But it is just another step in the process."

Mohave County supervisor Pete Byers said the county so far has only provided some general planning approvals for Mardian and Rhodes projects at White Hills. He said many more permits and approvals are

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required at the local and state level for full-fledged development of either venture.

“It's appropriate that public officials have input at every step of the way,” Tassinari said. “It's a long process and we're still in the middle of it and county and state officials will have plenty more to say about the shape and scope of this development.”

County Manager Ron Walker said the ADWR's water sufficiency determination will mean different things to different parties.

“The result of this state analysis will be celebrated by some and cursed by others,” Walker said. “But science isn't biased and, in this case, the results are positive for the developer.”

Mardian said conservation components will be featured in his project.

“I am committed to making the Ranch at White Hills a model community for sustainable living in the Southwest,” Mardian said. “Our plans include the reuse of grey water, rainwater collection and native plant landscaping. Every home will be served with water and sewer instead of a septic and well combination.”