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Mike Gleason - Commissioner  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
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Phoenix, AZ 85007-2929

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## PLEASE DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO HELP THE PEOPLE OF PINE & STRAWBERRY!

It is my understanding that the December Open Meeting will be the last one for three of the current commissioners. It will be the last time for those commissioners who have been involved with the many ACC hearings regarding Brooke Utilities and the water problems in Pine and Strawberry to take action. It would be impossible and very costly for the new commissioners to be brought up to speed. It is time to protect the people, release the \$300,000 for the K-2 well and

### **Deny the Encumbrance.**

The K-2 agreement signed by the previous PSWID board (4 of whom have been recalled) has been controversial since the beginning with conflicts of interest, secreted documents, lack of due diligence and a basic mistrust of an ACC protected water monopoly, Brooke Utilities. The current PSWID board has denounced the K-2 agreement and moved toward becoming a community owned water district. Robert Hardcastle of Brooke Utilities stated in an ACC hearing that he is willing to sell the water companies and monetize his assets. However, he also told my husband in a private conversation that "he works better in adversarial and confrontational situations" and he continues to create mistrust and hostility in Pine and Strawberry while providing inferior water service. The people have spoken in the last two elections: they support this new board and their efforts to become an independent water district. Robert Hardcastle has not been willing to counter the two buyout offers presented by the board. He has said he cooperated with the board on the appraisal process but in fact would not assist in locating any facilities and would not allow pictures or meter readings to be taken. What good businessman would refuse to be helpful if he desired to sell these two "loser" water companies. Sure makes one think he is creating a set of books for the ACC and the public and enjoying a "cash cow" at the consumer's expense. The people want the \$300,000 being held in escrow to be used toward the new effort and not to help this privately owned utility company that has publicly stated they would not risk their own money on drilling this well.

Brooke Utilities has had 12 years to improve the infrastructure, find new water resources, build good community relations and correct the issues that have required us to be on water restrictions and under a complete water hookup moratorium. In a recent ACC hearing even your staff admitted that Brooke Utilities has been providing less than adequate service and according to the guidelines, that is reason enough to **Revoke their CC&N.**

We plead with you to make a decision for the people of Pine & Strawberry. Let us solve the water issues we face without the burden of dealing with Brooke Utilities any longer.

*Julie Pugel*