

ORIGINAL

SOUTHWESTERN UTILITY MANAGE
TELEPHONE: (520) 623-5172
FAX: (520) 792-0377
E-MAIL: pjuhl@southwesternutility.com
WEB - www.southwesternutility.com



0000164216



MAILING ADDRESS:
P.O. BOX 85160
TUCSON, AZ 85754

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LOCATION:

2015 N FORBES BLVD, SUITE 107
TUCSON, AZ 85745
AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

October 8, 2015

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

RE: Docket No. AU-00000A-15-0309

Dear Chairman Bitter Smith and Commissioner Burns:

On September 23, 2015, Southwestern Utility Management (Southwestern) received your letter regarding campaign contributions. On behalf of our managed systems listed on Exhibit A, we submit the following response.

First and foremost, we agree and understand that the Commission must avoid the appearance of impropriety. To our knowledge, the utility companies managed by Southwestern have never provided campaign donations in an amount that could be perceived as being influential for two reasons. First, small utility companies not having the financial wherewithal to give substantial campaign donations. Second, like you, we recognize that the Commission needs to independent and not beholden to any interest group. Therefore, Southwestern will continue to advise its clients to stay this course of action.

Still, Southwestern does encourage its employee and clients to speak with Commission candidates and participate in political campaigns to the extent that they feel comfortable. Historically, Southwestern employees and clients have contributed to clean election campaigns and donated \$5.00 to Commission candidates as deemed appropriate by the individual. I firmly believe that it is extremely important that people exercise their political rights and contribute to any campaign sharing their political views. Participating in such a manner should not cause anyone to believe that a Commissioner will be beholden to a utility company or interest group.

Respectfully,

Bonnie O'Connor
President
Southwestern Utility Management

Arizona Corporation Commission

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Exhibit A

Docket # AU-00000A-15-0309

Anway Manville
Chaparral Water Properties, Inc.
Clear Springs Utility Company, Inc.
Dragoon Water Company
East Slope Water Company
Francesca Water Company, Inc.
Goodman Water Company
Halcyon Acres Annex No 2 Water Company, Inc.
La Casita Water Company, Inc.
Mescal Lakes Water System, Inc.
Mirabell Water Company, Inc.
Mountain Glen Water Service, Inc.
Naco Water Company
Park Water Company
Thim Utility
Thim Water
Sandario Water Company
Sonoita Valley Water Company
Southland Utilities Company
Starlight Water Company
Valle Verde Water Company
Voyager Water Company