



SOUTHERN ARIZONA WATER USERS ASSOCIATION
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April 28, 2015

MEMBERS

Avra Water Co-op

BKW Farms

*Community Water Company
of Green Valley*

FICO/Farmers Water Co.

Flowing Wells Irrigation District

*Green Valley Domestic Water
Improvement District*

Kai Farms

Marana Utilities Department

Metro Water District

Oro Valley Water Utility

Pima County Regional Wastewater

Red Rock Utilities

Sahuarita Water Company

Town of Sahuarita Wastewater Utility

Tucson Water Department

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Tom Buschatzke, Chairman
Arizona Water Banking Authority
3550 N. Central Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85012

Re: Alternatives for Meeting Legislative Transfers from AWBA for FY 2016

Dear Chairman Buschatzke:

The Southern Arizona Water Users Association (SAWUA) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the alternatives that the Arizona Water Banking Authority is considering in regards to meeting the Legislative transfers from the AWBA for Fiscal Year 2016. SAWUA recognizes the importance of the AWBA as an intricate part of Arizona's management of its water resources. It is unfortunate that the AWBA is not fully funded to fulfill its responsibilities including to meet its targeted firming goals for Municipal and Industrial (M&I) providers in the Phoenix, Pinal and Tucson Active Management Areas (AMA). Meeting the firming targets in all of the AMAs is even more crucial as a Colorado River shortage declaration looms in the near future.

Upon reviewing the two alternatives presented for the AWBA to meet the decrease in its FY 2016 funding, SAWUA is supportive of Alternative 1, which would have transfers taken from all three AMAs withdrawal fee subaccounts on a proportional basis. While Alternative 2 would move the Tucson AMA closer to reaching its M&I firming goal, SAWUA believes Alternative 1 would be the fairest approach. SAWUA hopes that next year the water community will be united in advocating for the AWBA to have full funding to meets all of the responsibilities that the State has tasked the AWBA.

Sincerely,

Warren Tenney, President
Southern Arizona Water Users Association