

Transcript of handwritten letter received at BOR's Washington DC office

David Lutz



Bureau of Reclamation

Dear Sirs:

I am responding to the public comme[n]t on the Colorado River. I[f] we are going to save our water in the arid southwest 3 things need to be done

1st

We need to put the brakes on the explosive growth in Arizona. This is putting an unsustainable demand on water. The population in Arizona is expected to blow past 8 million quite soon. People are 70% water and need a lot of water to sustain.

Elected officials have acted irresponsible here. They just approved Douglas Ranch which will have 100,000 houses. The amount of water required by this is astronomical. The developer claims they will not use Colorado River water. There is no where near the water in the ground to support such a gigantic development.

Douglas Ranch is just one of more than 2 dozen giant mega developments pending approval around Phoenix. They have already rezoned for ½ million homes in Pinal Co. The amount of water needed to support this is astronomical!

This trend in pop growth threatens our water supply and the sustainability of this entire region.

2nd

The second thing that needs to be done is the get the farmers to switch from high water use crops like cotton and alfalfa and switch to low water use crops like Johoba (sic – Jojoba?) and Whyuley (sic). These crops use just the fraction of the water needed as present crops. Just paying farmers to not grow crops is just a waste of the tax dollars and is just kicking the can down the road.

3rd

Desalination needs to be reconsidered. They already built a desalination plant near the mouth of the Colorado River but it was shut down because it was too expensive.

There is a way around this. Instead of dumping the waste brine back into the sea you put it in evaporation ponds and collect the salt to be sold. There is a big demand for natural sea salt. By doing this it would generate the income to help pay for the operation of the desalination plant.

The way it could be done is to have the plants built on the Pacific Coast to serve California. Thus Arizona could buy California's share of Colorado River water.

Conclusion

These steps need to be implemented emedialty (sic). If not Arizona and the entire South is headed for disaster.

Sincerely yours,
David Lutz



Mr David Lutz
9850 W Busterville Ln
Tucson, AZ 85743

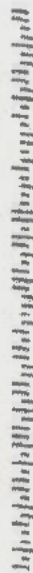
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Board of Reclamation

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Sincerely yours

Frank J. ...

1st Can

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See next page for 3rd