



August 31, 2022

The Honorable Debra Haaland  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C. Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

The Honorable Tanya Trujillo  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C. Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

The Honorable Camille Calimlim Touton  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
1849 C. Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Email: [CRB-info@usbr.gov](mailto:CRB-info@usbr.gov).

Dear Secretary Haaland, Assistant Secretary Trujillo, and Commissioner Touton:

The City of Tucson appreciates [the opportunity to submit comments regarding Post-2026 Colorado River Operations](#). We respectfully request that the Department of Interior and the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) consider the following as you develop operating strategies for the continued, coordinated operation of Lake Powell and Lake Mead:

- **Municipal Input:** Cities and municipal water providers across the basin face significant challenges. We need to plan for the future and support local economies and quality of life concerns in an uncertain water supply environment. The need for increased clarity on BOR water operations can be advanced with increased outreach to municipal providers along with the current participation by state agencies. Tucson seeks additional opportunities to collaborate and coordinate with other important stakeholders, including the federal government, states, tribes, non-governmental organizations, and Mexico. This includes participating in both the upcoming NEPA process as well as in the development of the Post-2026 operating guidelines.
- **Shortage Sharing:** Tucson strongly recommends BOR utilize an equitable approach to shortage sharing. This would allow all entities to participate in cuts and treat current users fairly. In addition, an equitable approach will be the easiest to explain to water users across the basin.

Thank you for your consideration. Tucson appreciates your leadership, and we look forward to working with you to protect the Colorado River system and achieve long-term reliability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Kmiec".

John Kmiec  
Director  
Tucson Water