



March 2, 2026

The Honorable Doug Burgum
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Through:
Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: BCOO-1000
P.O. Box 61470
Boulder City, NV 89006
crbpost2026@usbr.gov

Re: Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Post-2026 Operational Guidelines and Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead.

Secretary Burgum,

On behalf of the Town of Marana, I submit this letter to express our thoughtful concern regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Post-2026 Operational Guidelines and Strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead, published on January 16, 2026. While Marana and Arizona proactively developed conservation strategies to operate with variable supply conditions typical of the Colorado River Basin, the impact of the severe Colorado River supply reductions proposed in the DEIS could undermine the decades of thoughtful planning that supported the development of our community.

Marana is a vibrant town in southern Arizona that plays an important role in the region's long-term planning efforts. Sustained growth over the past decades has brought continued investment in infrastructure, economic development, and community amenities, while also reinforcing the responsibility to carefully manage critical resources. Through proactive planning and regional collaboration, Marana remains committed to advancing sustainable water strategies that support both current residents and future generations.

The Lower Basin States and Marana pioneered the development of forward-thinking solutions and innovative technologies to more efficiently utilize our water resources. Marana Water prides itself in creating a sustainable and balanced water portfolio that utilizes water from the Colorado River, treated effluent and our local aquifers. While we pride ourselves on our responsible utilization of our water resources, the development of our strong water conservation ethic required significant investment to



pursue and achieve. Among the various investments made by Marana towards achieving our sustainable water resource planning goals are:

- Construction of our water reclamation facility and effluent recharge basins to enable beneficial reuse of more than 95% of our wastewater,
- Implementation of water-efficient design requirements for new developments,
- Preemptive replacement of service meters with smart AMI meter infrastructure,
- Development of our Integrated Water Resources Master plan, which includes our Drought Preparedness Plan and Water Conservation Plan,
- Financial investments in toilet and irrigation controller customer rebate program,
- Partnered with other area water providers to develop pool removal workshops for our residents,
- Designed and plan to construct a demonstration site to educate our community of the benefits of rainwater harvesting,
- Financial investments into system improvements to reduce lost and unaccounted for water to less than 5%.

While Marana and Arizona proactively funded and implemented these, and many other, water-conserving practices and technologies, similar commitments and investments are not required of Upper Basin States in this draft DEIS. Instead, continued expansion of resource utilization by Upper Basin States is enabled with no meaningful consideration of the impact to Arizona and requirements of the Colorado River Compact (Compact).

Without a post-2026 operational plan consensus among all Upper and Lower Basin States, the Compact is the foundation on which future river operations and policy must be based. We sincerely hope a consensus plan can be developed to avoid protracted litigation, operational uncertainty, and Arizona communities from being primarily burdened with measures to stabilize the over-allocated waters of the Colorado River.

Professionally,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terry S. Rozema", is written over the typed name.

Terry S. Rozema
Town Manager
11555 W. Civic Center Drive
Marana, AZ 85653