



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Phoenix Area Office
6150 West Thunderbird Road
Glendale, Arizona 85306-4001



PXAO-1500
ENV-6.00

Jun 28 2007

MEMORANDUM

To: All Interested Persons, Organizations, and Agencies

From: Carol Lynn Erwin 
Area Manager

Subject: Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Proposed Assignment of Central Arizona Project (CAP) Municipal and Industrial Priority (M&I) Subcontract Water Entitlements from Four Water Companies to the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD)

Reclamation has completed a final EA on the proposed assignment of M&I priority CAP subcontract water entitlements to CAWCD. Under the proposed action, a total of 7,746 acre-feet annually (afa) of CAP M&I water entitlements held by West End Water Company, Sunrise Water Company, New River Utility Company, and Litchfield Park Service Company, all with service areas located in western Maricopa County, Arizona, would be transferred to CAWCD. The CAP water service subcontracts of the four water companies would be terminated. CAWCD would enter into a Supplemental Contract with Reclamation for a total volume of 7,746 afa of M&I priority CAP subcontract water. The CAP water would be used exclusively by CAWCD in support of its ground-water replenishment obligations, acting in its capacity as the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District (CAGR).

Reclamation issued a draft EA for a 29-day public review and comment period on May 10, 2007. Four comment letters were received. Reclamation carefully considered these comments and has made revisions to the EA where appropriate. Copies of the comment letters received and Reclamation's responses are included in Appendix E of the final EA.

Reclamation has determined termination of the CAP M&I water service subcontracts of West End Water Company, Sunrise Water Company, New River Utility Company, and Litchfield Park Service Company, and transfer of their CAP water entitlements totaling 7,746 afa to CAWCD, will not significantly impact the environment and that a FONSI is appropriate. Copies of both the final EA and FONSI are available on Reclamation's Phoenix Arizona Office website at <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/phoenix>. A hard copy or CD version of these documents may also be obtained by calling the Environmental Resource Management Division at 623-773-6251, or by e-mailing rkonst@lc.usbr.gov.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to those participating in the public review and comment process. Your interest in this project is appreciated. Questions may be directed to Ms. Sandra Eto of the Environmental Resource Management Division at 623-773-6254.