



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

August 24, 2009

MEMORANDUM

To: All Interested Persons, Organizations, and Agencies

From: Carol Lynn Erwin
Area Manager

Subject: Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Proposed Transfer of 1,481 Acre-Feet Annually of Central Arizona Project (CAP) Water Entitlement from the Flowing Wells Irrigation District (FWID) to the Town of Marana Utilities Department (TMUD)

The Bureau of Reclamation is issuing an EA on the proposed transfer of 1,481 acre-feet annually of CAP water entitlement currently held by FWID to TMUD, both with water service areas located in Pima County, Arizona. This water entitlement is excess to FWID's needs. TMUD will recharge this CAP water and accrue groundwater credits to offset its groundwater pumping. No new facilities need to be constructed, and no land-disturbing activities will occur as a direct result of Reclamation's approval of this transfer, FWID's continued use of groundwater, and TMUD's recharge of the transferred entitlement.

The EA describes the existing affected environment and anticipated environmental impacts from the proposed transfer. As explained in the EA, there is little difference between the future with the proposed transfer and the future without the proposed transfer.

Reclamation has made a preliminary determination that a FONSI is appropriate for this proposed transfer, and an environmental impact statement does not need to be prepared. The EA and a draft FONSI are available for public review on Reclamation's Phoenix Area Office Web site, www.usbr.gov/lc/phoenix. A hard copy or CD version of the EA also may be obtained by calling the Environmental Resource Management Division at 623-773-6251, or by e-mailing rkonst@usbr.gov.

We will consider all comments on both the EA and the draft FONSI prior to making a final decision regarding the proposed transfer. To be most helpful, comments should be as specific as possible. Please mail your comments to Ms. Sandra Eto, Environmental Resource Management Division, at the above address, Attention: PXAO-1500, or via electronic mail to seto@usbr.gov, or send to faxogram 623-773-6486, no later than September 30, 2009. Before including your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your

comment, you should be aware that your entire comment--including your personal identifying information--may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Eto of the Environmental Resource Management Division, at 623-773-6254. Thank you for your interest in this project.