



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-1.10

MEMORANDUM

To: All Interested Persons, Organizations and Agencies

From: Leslie A. Meyers
Area Manager

Acting For

Subject: Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment (EA) on an Exchange Agreement between the Tohono O'odham Nation (TON) and New Magma Irrigation and Drainage District (NMIDD or New Magma) (February 9, 2015)

The Bureau of Reclamation has prepared the subject EA to disclose the potential environmental impacts that may result from the approval of an Exchange Agreement between the Tohono O'odham Nation, a federally recognized Indian tribe (Nation) and the (NMIDD).

The EA evaluates the delivery of the Nation's CAP water for Storage at a Ground Water Savings Facility (GSF). A copy of this document is enclosed for your information. The storage agreement was executed January 1, 2014 for a period of two years and the amount of water delivered ranges from zero to 25,000 acre-feet of the Nation's CAP allocation. The EA also evaluates a 'No Action Alternative' in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (Public Law 91-190) and Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations 1500-1508). Pursuant to the provisions of the Arizona Water Settlements Act (P.L. 108-451) (AWSA) the United States considers the agreement to be an exchange and requires the approval of the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with Section 309(c)(4)(C) of the Act.

We have made a preliminary determination that a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is appropriate for the action and that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not warranted. However, we will consider all comments on the EA prior to making a final decision on the application of a FONSI. The EA and FONSI (draft) may be viewed on the Phoenix Area Office Web site at www.usbr.gov/lc/phoenix.

Comments should be submitted to Ms. Kimberly Musser at the above address no later than (February 23, 2015), or emailed to kmusser@usbr.gov. Before including your address, telephone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment you should be aware that your entire comment including your personal identifying information may be may publically 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.

For additional information regarding this matter, please contact Ms. Kimberly Musser at kmusser@usbr.gov or by calling 623-773-6216.