

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE CENTRAL ARIZONA WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ENDORING THE WHITE PAPER PRODUCED
BY THE YDP (YUMA DESALTING PLANT) WORKGROUP

June 23, 2005

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD) toured and heard briefings on the Yuma Desalting Plant (YDP) and the Cienega de Santa Clara in 2004;

WHEREAS, beginning in 2001 and continuing through the 2006 budget request, CAWCD has supported the Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR) annual appropriations request for funding to operate the YDP;

WHEREAS, with the support of the CAWCD Board and Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano, CAWCD staff took the lead in organizing a workgroup to determine if a plan could be developed to accomplish water management and environmental goals associated with operating the YDP;

WHEREAS, a workgroup comprised of representatives from four nationally recognized environmental organizations, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Arizona Department of Water Resources, the City of Yuma and Central Arizona Project began meeting on a monthly basis in June 2004;

WHEREAS, a recommended solution was developed that meets the plan objectives to 1) protect approximately 100,000 acre-feet of water stored in the Colorado River system, which has historically been lost from storage each year through over-deliveries to Mexico; 2) ensure maintenance and/or enhancement of the environmental values at the Cienega de Santa Clara; 3) comply with Mexican Treaty water quality requirements; and 4) preserve the status quo with respect to permanent rights to water from the Colorado River;

WHEREAS, copies of the report have been provided to the members of the workgroup, the CAWCD Board of Directors, the Governor of the State of Arizona, the U.S. Secretary of Interior, the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, members of the Arizona congressional delegation, elected officials and key management entities in the other six Colorado River basin states, as well as major water interests in the State of Arizona;

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2005, the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources, the Assistant Director Statewide Water Conservation and Strategic Planning of the Arizona Department of Water Resources, the Project Manager/Attorney for Programs of the Sonoran Institute, and the General Manager of the CAWCD provided a detailed briefing of the report recommendations to Governor Napolitano's staff, who commended the group for reaching a good resolution and voiced support for the recommendations;

WHEREAS, the BOR plans to include a copy of the report in its entirety as part of its YDP reporting to Congress;

WHEREAS, the report recommendations have received favorable response from various environmental groups;

WHEREAS, the workgroup participants are seeking formal declarations of support for the report from their constituencies;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District supports the conclusions and recommendations of the April 22, 2005, report entitled, "Balancing Water Needs on the Lower Colorado River: Recommendations of the Yuma Desalting Plant/Cienega de Santa Clara Workgroup;" and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CAWCD Board directs staff to work with state, federal and other entities to move the report recommendations through the state and federal processes to ensure operation of the Yuma Desalting Plant as part of a solution to better manage the state's Colorado River water resources while preserving the environmental values of the Cienega de Santa Clara, protecting the state's permanent rights to Colorado River water and ensuring compliance with the water quality requirements of the Mexican Water Treaty.

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolutions duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District at a meeting thereof, duly called and held on June 23, 2005, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout. I further certify that said resolutions have not been modified or revoked since their adoption and are still in full force and effect.

SIGNED THIS 23rd day of June, 2005.

By: _____



Daniel J. Donahoe
Secretary