

>>> "Evelyn Bester" <Evelyn.Bester@peoriaaz.gov> 04/30/07 9:36 AM >>>  
Please note the attachement, "City of Peoria Enviromental Impact  
Statement"

Also the original document was mailed via US postal on Friday, April  
27,  
2007. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our  
Water  
Resource Manager, Bradley Hill @ 623-773-7561 or email  
Bradley.Hill@peoriaaz.gov <<mailto:Bradley.Hill@peoriaaz.gov>> .

Thank you,

Evelyn Bester on Behalf Bradley Hill  
Administrative Assistant  
City of Peoria Utilities Department  
Water Resource & Conservation  
623-773-7561  
623-773-7291 fax  
evelyn.bester@peoriaaz.gov <<mailto:evelyn.bester@peoriaaz.gov>>



## City of Peoria

*Utilities Department*

8401 West Monroe Street, Peoria, Arizona 85345

Phone: 623-773-7286 Fax: 623-773-7291

April 27, 2007

Regional Director, Lower Colorado Region  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
ATTN: BCOO-1000  
P.O. Box 61470  
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470

**RE: Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead**

Thank you for the opportunity to review the above referenced draft EIS document and this letter contains the City's comments. Since Colorado River supplies via the Central Arizona Project make up nearly 46% of the City of Peoria's existing state certified renewable water supplies, the selection of the Basin States Alternative as the preferred alternative is an important one for our community. This alternative is the one that can be immediately implemented without additional statutory authority. This implementation would help to decrease the existing uncertainties related to future Lower Colorado River basin water supply shortages and their magnitude.

First, the City of Peoria supports the concepts and comments on the above referenced draft EIS outlined in letters by the Arizona Department of Water Resources letter on behalf of the State of Arizona and the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association letter on behalf of the central Arizona urban communities

One specific comment on the draft EIS is a question and suggestion. We are interested in why the report did not assume the Yuma Desalting Plant was operational? This assumption ignores a potential valuable water source which could help to minimize future supply shortages for the State of Arizona and the Central Arizona Project more specifically. We would recommend this important facility be included in this analysis.

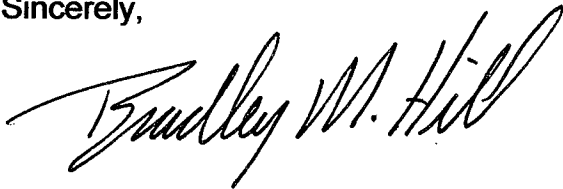
Finally, the City of Peoria has expended significant funds to actively manage its water resources, implementing comprehensive water conservation programs and preparing for drought conditions for the past decade. It would appear the City would be penalized for

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Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages  
and Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead**

these efforts based on our reading of the EIS. Specifically, the City has recently spent over \$191 million on groundwater recharge facilities, groundwater supply wells, reclaimed water facilities and additional water rights in order to diversify its water supplies and infrastructure. The City adopted an ordinance to require a level of system redundancy (i.e., back-up water supply) and most recently adopted a Drought Contingency Plan in 2003. The adoption of the Basin States Alternative as the preferred alternative will provide the necessary protection and certainty to permit the City to continue planning for the adverse impacts of potential Colorado River shortages. We don't believe the City of Peoria should be penalized for these forward thinking efforts.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bradley M. Hill". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'B'.

**Bradley M. Hill**  
Water Resources Manager

c: Terry Ellis, City Manager  
Herb Guenther, Director - ADWR  
Sid Wilson, General Manager, CAWCD