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NEWS

RELEASE

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Phelps Dodge's Show Low Lake Case Concluded

At the request of Phelps Dodge, the Superior Court Judge for the Little Colorado River Adjudication dismissed the Phelps Dodge case involving Show Low Lake.

By the order of Judge Eddward P. Ballinger, Jr. filed September 26, 2005, all proceedings in the Little Colorado River Adjudication relating to Phelps Dodge's claim to water rights in Show Low Lake have ended, and the court will take no further action on matters pending in that case.

The court's order follows Phelps Dodge's decision to permanently abandon its Show Low Lake water rights, and transfer its property interests in Show Low Lake and dam to the City of Show Low.

In January 2005, the Arizona Department of Water Resources prepared a Supplemental Contested Case Hydrographic Survey Report for the Phelps Dodge case. Objections to the report were due August 1, 2005.

Because the Phelps Dodge case has been dismissed, the court will not address the merits of those objections, but will retain them as part of the court's files.

The court's action dismissing Phelps Dodge's water right claims to Show Low Lake does not affect any water right claims that Phelps Dodge may have to other sources of water. The court's ruling also does not affect any water right claims that other entities may have to Show Low Lake.

Recently the City of Show Low and the Show Low/Pinetop-Woodland Irrigation Company filed two new applications to use water from Show Low Lake. The Department is reviewing these applications, and will provide an opportunity for public comment in the near future.

Celebrating 25 Years