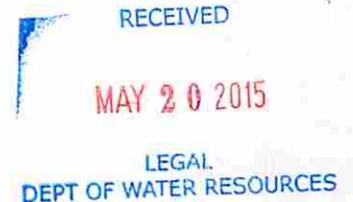


Richard V Frank  
5388 E Ricks Road  
Willcox, AZ 85643

**SUBJECT: OPPOSE SAN SIMON INA**

May 16, 2015

Docket Supervisor Sharon Scantlebury  
Arizona Department of Water Resources  
3550 N Central Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85012



To whom it may concern:

My wife and I have lived in AZ for 41 years, 17 of which has been in Cochise County.  
We oppose the San Simon INA.

The very farmers like the Cooks and the Masseys who say that new farmers want to buy 4000-5000 acres and plant trees are the very farmers that have farms that size and larger and are the major users of ground water in the area. What the Cooks, Masseys and a few others want is a monopoly on farming in the area. They want to end competition. If ADWR does not see this then ADWR has blinders on their eyes. They speak of the little 50-100 acre farmers. If you approve an INA NO new farming operations will be allowed. The folks who want to grow some apples or grapes or cherries on 10-100 acres will not be able to do so. The economy in Cochise County is already bad. If you approve the San Simon INA the next INA will be a little farther west and as you know has been proposed by Richard Searle (Large pistachio farmer) Oh, and by the way a County Supervisor and the Haas family who are one of the largest farming families in the area. You will be essentially killing further growth in this area. Richard Searle was instrumental in getting approval for the HUGE Faria dairy. This dairy needs feed for 12 thousand head of cattle so every Tom, Dick and Harry has been growing Alfalfa and corn to supply the dairy as well as the dairy itself with its vast land holdings. Then you have Chase Farms out of NM who have miles and miles of Pecan Orchards and with it drilling new well after new well. These large outfits are responsible for the depletion of ground water.

If you look around the area there just happens to be huge well drilling rigs popping up on the large farms over old wells that haven't been used in 20 years. They are doing this in anticipation of ADWR declaring INA's in the area.

We would be much better served creating a 6<sup>th</sup> AMA for Cochise County and part of Graham County. With an AMA the Cook, Chase, Searle, Haas and Massey types would have to conserve and they would be metered and charged fees like the farmers in most of the rest of the State.

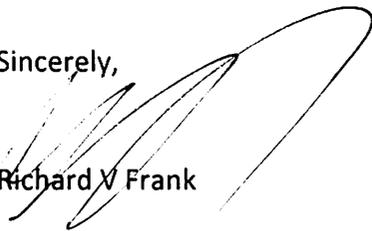
If you create this INA and others in this area you are essentially passing a death sentence on the area as it pertains to future growth. Existing mega farms is all that will be here. No one will retire on 40-100 acres as they have in the past.

And finally I don't know if you checked it out but we are getting rains again that will maintain and replenish current water tables.

To reiterate, the very farmers who have signed the INA petition and who are vocal about conservation are the ones who are responsible for using too much water. It is these farmers who want to create a monopoly on agriculture in the area not conserve water.

I hope and pray that you make the right decision and not ruin lives by making a poor decision to approve the INA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard V Frank', written over a printed name.

Richard V Frank