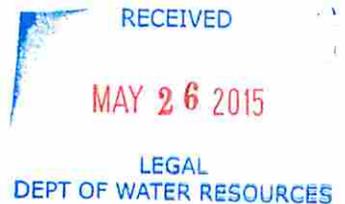


May 20, 2015



To: ADWR
3550 North Central Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Attn.: Sharon Scantlebury

From: Calvin W. Allred
3028 North Circle I RD
Willcox, AZ 85643

I submitted a written statement at the public hearing and intended to make an oral statement at the hearing but I was not able to do so. This is to supplement my previous statement.

The hydrology information provided at the hearing was somewhat misleading. The static water levels provided were an average of all wells measured which included domestic wells, shallow wells, wells near the mountains along with the deep wells used for irrigation. As farmers we are only concerned about irrigation wells and if we isolate just the irrigation wells we get a different picture. We recently did a lot of work on one of our best irrigation wells in Bowie. It has been used for many years. We pulled everything out of the well in the fall of 2014. It had been about 20 years since it had been previously worked on. The water level in that well had declined a little more than 40 feet in those 20 years, which is about what other good irrigation wells have declined in the Bowie area over the past 10 to 20 years. In the San Simon area the decline has been about 5 foot per year for irrigation wells.

This rate of decline is not alarming but it measures a time period of relatively low irrigation usage. Our current utilization rate is not the major concern. What is of great concern to me is the hundreds of acres of new trees that have been planted and now use very little water but that will soon change and when we add to that the ground being developed for planting it won't be long before the pumping rates increase significantly. If in addition to what we currently have planted and what is being developed we allow anyone who desires to drill new wells and develop new acres with no regulation or restrictions we will soon be at the 1970-1980 levels.

This aquifer is fragile. That is clear from the steep declines in the water levels during the period of 1950 to the 1980's. We have an opportunity now to protect the aquifer and the agricultural industry of the area. If we do not do so we will return to the steep declines of previous times and once we do so it will be to late. We will never get the aquifer to recover.

My family owns over 1200 acres of previously farmed ground in the Bowie area. We irrigate less than 550 acres of it because of our concern for the water table. I saw first hand what happened to the farms back in the 70's and 80's and I'm trying to do what I can to avoid that. I would love to plant more trees but I don't think we have the water. However, it is difficult to maintain that position when others are planting every possible acre and drilling new wells as fast as they can.

I know all of the land owners that spoke in opposition at the hearing and almost all of them are concerned about selling land at high prices. Some are already in escrow. Few if any are currently farming therefore, they want to sell, get their money, make a tremendous gain on the sale and give no thought to the condition of the aquifer. The entire risk and impact of declining water tables falls on the existing farmers.

My only concern is to protect the aquifer for the future. I have four sons currently living in Bowie and working in the agricultural industry. I would like our farming operation to be viable and productive for many years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cal Allred".

May 20, 2012

Mr. ADWR

1750 North Central Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85012

From: Calvin W. Alford
3028 North Circle I RD
Willcox, AZ 85643

DEPT OF WATER RESOURCES
LEGISLATIVE

Arizona State University

I submitted a written statement at the public hearing and intended to make an oral statement at the hearing but I was not able to do so. This is to supplement my previous statement. The hydrology information provided at the hearing was somewhat misleading. The static water levels provided were an average of all wells measured which included domestic wells, shallow wells, and irrigation wells. The decline in the water level in the Bowie area has been about 10 to 20 feet in the past 20 years, which is about what other good irrigation wells have declined in the Bowie area over the past 20 years. In the San Simon area the decline has been about 2 feet per year for irrigation wells. This rate of decline is not alarming but it becomes a time period of relatively low irrigation usage. Our current utilization rate is not the major concern. What is of great concern to me is the hundreds of acres of new trees that have been planted and now use very little water but that will change and when we add to that the ground being developed for planting it won't be long before the pumping rates increase significantly. In addition to what we currently have planted and what is being developed we allow anyone who desires to drill new wells and develop new areas with no regulation or restrictions we will soon be in the 1970-1980 levels.

This decline is fragile. That is clear from the steep declines in the water levels during the period of 1950 to the 1980's. We have an opportunity now to protect the aquifer and the agricultural industry of the area. If we do not do so we will return to the steep declines of previous times and once we do so it will be to last. We will never get the aquifer to recover.

My family owns over 1200 acres of previously farmed ground in the Bowie area. We irrigate less than 250 acres of it because of our concern for the water table. I can't say how much happened to

the water table in the Bowie area. We have the water table in the Bowie area in a similar position to what others are planting or are possible are and drilling new wells as fast as they can.

I know all of the land owners that spoke in opposition at the hearing and almost all of them are concerned about selling land at high prices. Some are already in cashew. Now if any are currently farming therefore they want to sell, get their money, make a tremendous gain on the sale and give no thought to the condition of the aquifer. The entire risk and impact of declining water tables fall on the existing farmers.

My only concern is to protect the aquifer for the future. I have four sons currently living in Bowie and working in the agricultural industry. I would like our farming operation to be viable and productive for many years to come.

Sincerely,