

**Richard V Frank
5388 E Ricks Road
Willcox, AZ 85643**

Re: San Simon INA

July 6, 2015

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

To whom it may concern:

I have lived in Arizona for 41 years and have resided in Cochise County for 17 years this month.

I OPPOSE A SAN SIMON INA.

I oppose it because it will not solve the problem which is simply farmers drawing water out of the ground faster than it can be replenished. The proposed San Simon INA and the petition circulating for a Willcox INA has prompted farmers to drill new wells, drill old 30 year old wells deeper, cultivate land for more trees and crops like never before. An INA will only exasperate the problem.

Up until a few years ago an entity wishing to put a dairy in or feed lot in Cochise County had to have a special use permit which meant that folks living in the surrounding area of the proposed site had to sign off on it. Our current legislatures were lobbied by Faria Dairy and prompted by County Supervisor Searle to pass legislation barring the Counties from requiring special use permits for dairies and feed lots, which they did. Faria dairy was purchased by an outfit out of the Midwest who are now building feed lots to grow heifers to replenish their dairy cows in other States. This new outfit plans to have upwards of 30,000 head of cattle on the old Faria dairy site. Every Tom, Dick and Harry farmer in the area is gearing up to grow feed for this huge herd. So where are our legislatures now when we are in debate on what to do about the water? They are AWOL with pockets full of cash from the large farmers.

The only way to conserve our ground water in Cochise County is to meter the use and restrict the use. It is beyond my comprehension why we do not have an AMA here. The Five existing AMA's work well at what they are intended to do.

The few large farmers who started this INA process have been expanding like crazy in the interim and are just plain greedy. They want to pull out as much water out of the ground (including their neighbors water) as they want while not wanting anyone else with existing wells not used recently to ever use them again, Thus, inflating the value of their real estate while deflating the value of everyone else's real estate.

We need regulation of existing and future ground water use but we do not need an INA because it will not solve the problem, only make things worse.

Sincerely,


Richard V Frank