

Sharon Scantlebury

From: gbheuler@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2015 3:04 PM
To: Sharon Scantlebury
Subject: Water San Simon - Bowie comments

The Future of Farming in the Bowie- San Simon Area

July 17, 2015

Director of Arizona Water Resources:

Dear Sir:

For Arizona to have a permanent agricultural industry extraction cannot exceed recharge. To accomplish this goal may require a change in the law. If so, do so.

1. California water is a disaster because of terrible State of California mismanagement. State officials always want to place the blame on others. California is model of what will happen if you do nothing. Do not go there.
2. Because of the water shortage in California, developers have come and are coming to Arizona in vast numbers that are causing and will cause a water problem from which there is no solution.
3. Look at Kingman, Arizona. Is that a problem now or will that develop into a problem? You do not need problems.
4. Olga has had for years about 600 acres in permanent crops. New land under development 3,860.
You cannot wait until that development occurs and then say we did not know. The existing water will not take that extraction rate. How do you prevent problems? Once you have the problem of aquifer collapse, it is too late. It is easier to prevent than to cure.
5. I have been in farming for over 40 years and seen the errors of water in California. We sold out of California ten years ago because of poor State management and have come to Arizona where the State Officials show good judgement. There are political issues and economic issues. It is one thing to make most of the people happy now. You will be judged by history. You cannot break the law of sustainable farming that says extraction must not exceed recharge. A group of farmers have brought \$200,000,000 in new investment and new jobs into Arizona. They follow the practices of sustainable farming. Most of them plan to farm here for beyond the next one hundred years. If we can together and prevent a water crisis, they will invest additional funds into Arizona farming.
6. I only ask for wisdom, judgement, and courage.
G. Barton Heuler.