

## **Executive Order 2015-13**

### **Relating to the Implementation of the Arizona Water Initiative (Supersedes and Rescinds Executive Order 2014-10)**

**Whereas**, in January of 2014, the Arizona Department of Water Resources released “Arizona’s Next Century: A Strategic Vision for Water Supply Sustainability” (Strategic Vision) that identified key priorities, timelines and action items to maintain sustainable water supplies for Arizona into its next century;

**Whereas**, the Strategic Vision divided the state into twenty-two planning areas and analyzed the water demands and supplies for each and identified strategies for meeting water demands into the future;

**Whereas**, sustainable water supplies are essential to the economic vitality and quality of life for Arizona and its citizens;

**Whereas**, the proactive measures taken by the State of Arizona have resulted in a current state of resiliency with respect to its water supplies;

**Whereas**, Arizona Governor Janice K. Brewer established the Governor’s Council on Water Supply Sustainability on November 4, 2014 that published an Initial Report on December 31, 2014;

**Whereas**, the Initial Report recommended that working groups be formed to develop, evaluate and prioritize recommendations and potential partnerships regarding water supply augmentation and water supply infrastructure needs;

**Whereas**, the Initial Report proposed workgroups to address desalination, funding, rural issues, and stakeholder engagement;

**Whereas**, implementation of the Strategic Vision and the recommendations of the Initial Report is imperative for the future of Arizona;

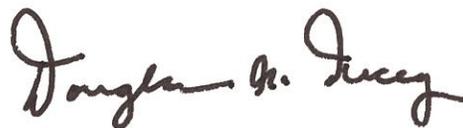
**Whereas**, on October 5, 2015, I announced a Water Initiative that will implement the Strategic Vision and address the recommendations of the Initial Report through two tracks to insure the certainty of Arizona’s water supply into the future;

**Whereas**, the first track will focus on a stakeholder driven analysis of the twenty-two Strategic Vision planning areas and the second track will be a council that will investigate long-term water augmentation strategies for the state;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Arizona, hereby order as follows:

- 1) The Arizona Department of Water Resources shall provide staffing and technical support to complete the first track of the Water Initiative.
- 2) The Governor's Water Augmentation Council (Council) shall be created to implement the second track of the Water Initiative.
- 3) The Council shall meet quarterly.
- 4) The Council shall consist of members appointed by the Governor who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
- 5) The Arizona Department of Water Resources shall provide staffing and technical support to the Council.
- 6) The Council shall consider the need to create additional working groups and, if formed, Council members shall serve on working groups that may also include non-Council members.
- 7) The Council shall consider a communication plan for the State to accurately convey the status of its water supply resiliency and its efforts to maintain that status moving forward
- 8) The Council shall prepare an annual report and submit it to the Governor by July 1, 2016 and by July 1 every year thereafter.
- 9) The annual report shall describe the activities and the recommendations of the Council and activities undertaken pursuant to the first track of the Water Initiative.
- 10) Executive Order 2014-10 is hereby superseded by this Order and Executive Order 2014-10 is rescinded.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.



**GOVERNOR**

**DONE** at the Capitol in Phoenix on this Sixteenth day of December in the year Two Thousand and Fifteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Fortieth.

**ATTEST:**



**Secretary of State**

