

*Pinal Stakeholder Meeting
June 1, 2020*

*Draft Pinal Assured Water Supply
Priority Policy*



*Ayesha Vohra, Deputy Counsel
Arizona Department of Water Resources*

Background

- In November 2019, ADWR posted the Draft Substantive Policy Statement titled *Priority of Issued Assured Water Supply Demands In Hydrologic Studies For Assured Water Supply Applications Located in the Pinal Active Management Area Hydrologic Model Area* and requested stakeholder feedback.
- Receiving no stakeholder feedback, ADWR recently requested that any stakeholders wishing to comment on the draft policy submit comments no later than Monday, June 15, 2020.
- This deadline is extended to June 30th.

Priority Policy Overview

The draft policy establishes guidelines that could be used in the Pinal AMA by:

1. Certificate applicants relying on a previously issued Analysis for groundwater physical availability and
2. Designation Modification (renewal) applicants relying on a previously issued Designation for groundwater physical availability

Priority Policy Overview: Certificates

Certificate applicants seeking to rely on an analysis for groundwater physical availability may exclude the groundwater demands of analyses issued after the date of the applicant's analysis in the hydrologic modeling scenario for the certificate application.

Priority Policy Overview: Designations

- Designation modification applicants seeking to rely on a previously issued designation for groundwater physical availability may exclude the groundwater demands of analyses issued after the date of the previously issued designation in the hydrologic modeling scenario for the designation application. This only applies for the groundwater volume previously included in a designation.
- If the designated provider seeks to increase the groundwater volume to be included in the designation, that increased volume must be demonstrated physically available without the use of the substantive policy statement.

Clarifying Points

- All other assured water supply rules remain in effect. This policy only allows analyses issued after an applicant's analysis or designation to be excluded.
- In addition to prior issued analysis demands, all issued certificate and designation demands need to be included in any model run utilizing this priority policy.
- If adopted, this draft policy would only apply within the Pinal Active Management Area at this time.
- Applicants wishing to utilize this priority policy would need to submit their own hydrologic model run.
- It is unknown whether any applicant will be able to demonstrate physical availability of groundwater in the Pinal AMA utilizing this priority policy.
- This priority policy does not change the physical availability requirement that all assured water supply demands included in the hydrologic model run must be met.



Questions?