

530 E. Monroe Ave. Buckeye, AZ 85326 cgoodman@buckeyeaz.gov www.buckeyeaz.gov

Councilman Clay Goodman City of Buckeye - District 6 530 East Monroe Avenue Buckeye, AZ 85326

President & CEO Ms. Sintra Hoffman WESTMARC 6751 North Sunset Boulevard Suite 210 Glendale, AZ 85305

February 8, 2022

Dear Ms. Hoffman:

It is my understanding that WESTMARC will be considering supporting Senate Bill 1147/HB 2055 Harquahala non-expansion area; groundwater transportation. I recommend you oppose the bills until Buckeye can work out several issues with the bill's sponsors.

Our opposition is based on several factors including the bill and its provisions were introduced without knowledge or collaboration of stakeholders including the City of Buckeye.

Senate Bill 1147 was first heard in the Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water Committee on Wednesday January 19 where it was held. One of SB1147's proponents suggested then that the bill was good for Buckeye. After reminding that proponent three times, we have yet to receive any explanation of how this bill is good for Buckeye.

The provisions contained in this bill are incredibly consequential and it would be best to take the time to explore the ramifications of this legislation greater detail and with the context of other bills that we expect to see introduced this session.

There have been millions of dollars of private investment made with the understanding that the Harquahala basin would serve as a resource to our community. That investment is now stranded because of the uncertainty this bill creates around that resource.



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Buckeye currently has 2,400 homes that are platted, and tens of thousands more homes planned, that could have used the water from the Harquahala basin. The news of those homes losing their source of water will throw the housing and home building industry in the west valley into chaos, further exacerbate the housing shortage, and increase the cost of homes.

If this bill is signed into law, Buckeye will have to look at purchasing additional Colorado River, or other surface water supplies, placing greater strain on that resource and the people who count on accessing it.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our position on this bill. Again, I ask that you oppose the bill until the City of Buckeye can work out the aforementioned issues. Please call or email me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Councilman Clay Goodman City of Buckeye, District 6