

March 26, 2019

The Honorable Raul Grijalva United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Grijalva,

In 2016, as part of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act, Congress established a competitive grant program within the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's (USBR) Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse program (Title XVI-WIIN) to provide federal cost-share grant funding for water recycling projects in the arid West. It is the only federal program with water recycling as its sole purpose.

There is a large and growing backlog of \$528 million of federal cost share for eligible Title XVI-WIIN projects, and the demand for Title XVI-WIIN grants will continue to grow as more projects become eligible. Title XVI-WIIN is an integral part of the federal funding partnership with local communities throughout the arid West to ensure they have safe and sustainable water supplies to meet demand.

Given the critical role that water reuse will play in Arizona's water management future, and given the overwhelming demand for Title XVI-WIIN projects across the West, we ask that you work with the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee to secure \$100 million for this program in FY 2020.

In addition to funding the Title XVI-WIIN program, we ask for your support in protecting USBR's Desalination and Water Purification Program. The Desalination Program provides funding for projects in Reclamation states that involve ocean or brackish water desalination. In the arid West, desalination is an important tool that can help communities manage their water supply. We ask for your support in securing \$20 million for the Desalination Program in FY 2020.

Thank you for considering our requests. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the other members listed below.

Sincerely,

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