

Brenda Garcia

From: Angie Gelsinon [angie@kaneenpr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 02, 2009 12:44 PM
To: Nicole Ewing-Gavin
Subject: FW: E-mail from TucsonPimaWaterStudy.com - Comments

-----Original Message-----

From: noreply@tucsonpimawaterstudy.com
[mailto:noreply@tucsonpimawaterstudy.com]
Sent: Friday, November 27, 2009 7:08 AM
To: info@tucsonpimawaterstudy.com
Subject: E-mail from TucsonPimaWaterStudy.com - Comments

Email Address: William.Altaffer@azbar.org

Comments/Questions: While I recognize the hard work and countless hours that the committee members and staff put into Phase II, I am disappointed with the lack of "outside the box" thinking that is reflected in the draft report.

This report largely serves as a road map for additional growth, arguing that growth should be channeled toward the southeast, where little infrastructure currently exists, or toward greater density in the city's core, where the infrastructure is aging and may be unable to handle the increased demand.

The elephant in the room that was never addressed is the issue of CAP water and salt. Specifically, according to some scientific studies, Tucson's full allotment of CAP water will bring 200,000 metric tons of salt to our valley each year. (The average railroad boxcar holds 100 tons of material.) While some will privately acknowledge the challenges this presents, no one has been willing to publicly address this issue. Perhaps it is the cost associated with removing salt from the CAP water. These include the construction of a desalinization plant, estimated at close to \$500,000 plus the annual operating and maintenance costs, estimated at \$25 million, plus the problem of disposing of the waste product. Doing nothing creates long-term risks to our infrastructure, soil and our health. This is a problem that requires imaginative problem-solving, and the Phase II report represents a failure to address this challenge.

What a shame that so many contributed so much time and effort, and all the community got in the end is "damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead."

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