

TRANSCRIPT OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2008

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

CHAIRMAN JIM BARRY: We'll do Call to the Audience, and Tracy, who is luckily still a member of the audience, cause she didn't violate the little known rule.

TRACY WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My name is Tracy Williams, and I'm a lifetime resident of Tucson. Wow, it looks like the 100-year is a very short-sighted approach to managing water. I'm really glad today to see that we're admitting that there's a disconnect between science and policy, and I would even venture to say that that's intentional, and I hope the objective of this group is to bring that out in the open.

I would like this group to consider basing their recommendations to Mayor and Council and the Supervisors to look at the historical summary that was presented at one of the last meetings and balance population with water resources. The summary of the lessons learned was very instructive to me.

I gave a question to Staff about the Kinder-Morgan pipeline. Now, that infrastructure runs parallel to the highways from Texas through Tucson, and I think that it would be beneficial for the community to see an overlay of the Kinder-Morgan pipeline and how that relates to the infrastructure of the sewer and the water lines. For example, if the sewer lines that are graded four and five - which need to be repaired soon - if they're running parallel to the infrastructure of that Kinder-Morgan pipeline, I would think that our health and safety would be in grave jeopardy as it almost was a few years ago when that pipeline did break on the west side of town. So, I've asked Staff to come up with that map for us so that might give us some direction on the infrastructure that needs to be improved upon; that was so carefully mentioned today that we haven't put enough money into our infrastructure, and I think might be a priority.

CHAIRMAN JIM BARRY: Thank you, Tracy. Nancy Freeman?

NANCY FREEMAN: Nancy Freeman, Groundwater Awareness League. First, I'm going to make a quick comment on Tracy's comment. At one time I squeezed out of ADWR, "What is the percentage of our 70% water use for agriculture? What is the percentage that goes to subsidized cotton?" And the answer was '60%'."

I want to express my concern over limiting the region. I'm working on a situation now. There is sheet flooding of about four inches to four feet over about 500 acres in unincorporated Sahuarita, and this has to do with our watershed. In other words, the water delivering into Tucson Basin comes from the Santa Ritas and the Catalinas and this is a Santa Rita area. It has been totally neglected and to have this broader expanded vision in your region does have some logic to it. Now, I think maybe you mentioned you just used wastewater and Water Company District just for Phase I. But definitely, the whole picture of water management in the region, I think it's important to include the watersheds. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN JIM BARRY: Thank you. Mr. Stagner?

CLYDE STAGNER: I'd like to thank the USGS for it's data and it's reports that you publish on the internet. Cheryl Parton went from one place to another in the USGS until she finally gave me the source and the data for the radioactive content of the Colorado River (inaudible) and below Boulder Dam.

At my house I've got an air conditioner which is dripping and running water, and has all summer long. Why? I've got a gas connection and an electric connection on the roof for the air conditioner. Why isn't there a pipe up there where this water can go down into the sewer system and be recycled into a Tucson Water bottle? The data is on there.

Air water generators. A 500,000-liter-a-day unit is available; it will put out 144 acre-feet. You'd need 1,000 to equal 144,000 acre-feet provided by CAP. How many vehicles you got running around Tucson and Pima County? I bet it's a hell of a lot more than 1,000. By putting in the air water generator you eliminate TVS altogether, no pipe lying over to Yuma, no dumping of solids anywhere, no contaminants, you blend it to reduce the level of TVS in the water, you reduce the radon down to where it's tolerable in (inaudible) liter, which is recommended by (inaudible). It has a short infrastructure time; it doesn't take years; it takes a lot of adaptive management to get into the act and run some tests and find out what the results are.

Last week, my wife was advised by a physician not to drink the Tucson water. You've heard the expression, "When you go there, don't drink the water." Well, it's coming your way, gentlemen. Good luck.

CHAIRMAN JIM BARRY: I'd like to point out that Mr. Stagner gave me for the Committee a copy of a manuscript called "Goodbye, Tucson" - I mean, "Goodbye Phoenix, Hello Tucson," by Clyde H. Stagner, so we'll make that a part of the record, and if people want to see it, we'll make sure that they can see it.

One more comment. Go ahead.

MADELINE KISER: When we're talking about adaptive management, I think we're also talking about, you know, that obviously the importance of moving policy-makers and the public to understand the singularity of this moment and potential challenges and potential seriousness. And I think in part we do that by facts, but also by narrative and stories, and I've just been thinking it would be such an important - it would be a gift to our community if any of us who are involved in this process were to write up opinion pieces about what it's meant to be in this room.

I've been saying - I think something really important is taking place here. The humor, the space for that's been created for different opinions to co-exist side by side, the clarity of some of the presentations. I think I would just encourage all of us to try and submit, you know, or some of us to submit and write about to move the public to understand that it's not just about facts, but to see and get a glimpse of what's taking place in this room. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN JIM BARRY: Anybody else? We could do one more quick comment. All right. Anybody want to adjourn? John, did you want to say something?

MEMBER JOHN CARLSON: Well, I noticed your two-hour limit, if you add up all your time, you got two extra minutes in there.

CHAIRMAN JIM BARRY: Not according to my watch. I have five to 9:00. Thank you very much. Thank you audience. Thank you, presenters.

(Applause.)

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that, to the best of my ability, the foregoing is a true and accurate transcription of the audio recording of (Call to the Audience) excerpts of the City/County Water & Wastewater Study Oversight Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2008.

Transcription completed: September 20, 2008.

DANIELLE L. KRASSOW-TISDALE