



**CENTRAL  
ARIZONA  
ASSOCIATION OF  
GOVERNMENTS**

1075 S. IDAHO ROAD

SUITE 300

APACHE JUNCTION, AZ 85219

*Serving Gila & Pinal Counties since 1970!*

**ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, September 3, 2008  
10:00 am MST  
Central Arizona Association of Governments Administrative Office  
1075 S. Idaho Road – Suite 300  
Apache Junction, AZ 85219

**AGENDA**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – *Chair Donald Gabrielson*
- II. **ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS**
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – *May 27, 2008*  
*Review, Discussion, and Decision*
- IV. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. CAAG 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Plan Update Amendment for Gold Canyon Sewer Company Service Area Expansion (CAAG 208 ID #2008-1) – *J. Peter Armenta*  
*Review, Discussion, Decision, and Recommendation to the CAAG Management Committee and Regional Council*
  - B. CAAG 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Plan Update Amendment for Desert Springs Utilities Company Wastewater Reclamation Facility (CAAG 208 ID #2008-3) – *J. Peter Armenta*  
*Review, Discussion, Decision, and Recommendation to the CAAG Management Committee and Regional Council*
  - C. Update on Silverbell Army National Guard Heliport Wastewater Treatment Facility (CAAG 208 ID #2007-12) – *J. Peter Armenta*  
*Discussion and possible Directive to Staff*
  - D. Environmental Planning Committee Member Appointment – *J. Peter Armenta*  
*Review, Discussion, Decision, and Recommendation to the CAAG Management Committee and Regional Council*
  - E. Election Environmental Planning Committee Chair and Vice-Chair – *J. Peter Armenta*  
*Review, Discussion, Decision*
- V. **CHAIR'S REPORT**
- VI. **STAFF REPORT**
- VII. **SET DATE, TIME, & LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING**  
Wednesday, November 5, 2008  
Wednesday, January 7, 2009
- VIII. **OTHER BUSINESS**
- IX. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**
- X. **ADJOURN**

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Approved by

*Handicapped individuals with special accessibility needs may contact J. Peter Armenta with the Central Arizona Association of Governments at (480) 474-9300, (800) 782-1445 toll-free, or (480) 671-5252 TTD. If possible, such requests should be made 72 hours in advance.*

GILA COUNTY: GLOBE, HAYDEN, MIAMI, PAYSON, STAR VALLEY, WINKELMAN

PINAL COUNTY: APACHE JUNCTION, CASA GRANDE, COOLIDGE, ELOY, FLORENCE, KEARNY, MAMMOTH, MARICOPA, QUEEN CREEK, SUPERIOR

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## **ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, May 27, 2008**

**10:00 am MST**

**Central Arizona Association of Governments Administrative Office**

**1075 S. Idaho Road – Suite 300**

**Apache Junction, AZ 85219**

### **MINUTES**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Don Gabrielson, Pinal County Air Quality  
Reg Glos, Pinal County Environmental Health  
Morris Taylor for Wayne Costa, Town of Florence  
Jake Garrett, Gila County Wastewater Department  
Rick Gibson, UA Cooperative Extension Services  
Kevin Louis, City of Casa Grande  
Janet Martin, Town of Queen Creek  
Doug Mason, San Carlos Irrigation and Drainage District  
John Mitchell, City of Eloy

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

LaRon Garrett, Town of Payson

#### **GUESTS:**

Teresa Valentine, Valentine Environmental Engineers  
Buddy Johns, Corrections Corporation of America (via teleconference)  
Barbara Massey-Nino, Pinal County Water Augmentation Authority

#### **STAFF:**

Maxine L. Brown  
J. Peter Armenta

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER – *Chair Donald Gabrielson***

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 by Chair Don Gabrielson

#### **II. ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS**

Roll was taken and a quorum was established

#### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *March 12, 2008***

*Review, Discussion, and Decision*

◆ **Motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2008 meeting made by Mr. Garrett. Second by Mr. Mitchell. Motion carries unanimously.**

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. CAAG 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Plan Update Amendment for Corrections Corporation of America Eloy Detention Center Expansion (CAAG 208 ID #2008-2) – *J. Peter Armenta*

Mr. Armenta introduced and presented information regarding the proposed amendment to the CAAG 208 Plan, and introduced Ms. Valentine who was present to give information and answer questions, along with Mr. Johns, via teleconference. Ms. Valentine from Valentine Environmental Engineers gave a brief presentation on the project.

The floor was then opened for questions and discussion ensued. Among the issues discussed were current usage of the existing wastewater treatment facilities and other amenities, including the evaporation/infiltration ponds, whether the ponds were able to handle additional flows, stormwater issues, composition of influent, infiltration vs. injection or vadose zone wells, odor control, water reuse, and subsidence.

**◆ Motion to approve by Mr. Gibson, contingent upon receiving letter describing ability of evaporation/infiltration ponds to percolate and recharge additional flows, and demonstration of the application for a Stormwater permit. Second by Mr. Mason. Motion approved unanimously**

- B. Pinal County Water Augmentation Authority (PCWAA) – *Barbara Massey-Nino*  
*Presentation, Discussion only*

Barbara Massey-Nino gave a brief presentation on the Pinal County Water Augmentation Authority (PCWAA), and some of her goals for the next year.

V. **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mr. Gabrielson announced the previously postponed Air Quality Summit is back on. The tentative date is set for November 7, 2008.

VI. **STAFF REPORT**

Staff provided a written report.

VII. **SET DATE, TIME, & LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, September 3, 2008  
CAAG Administration Office – Apache Junction

VIII. **OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was discussed.

IX. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

No one answered the call to the public.

X. **ADJOURN**

**◆ Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Mason. Second by Mr. Garrett. Meeting adjourned at 11:06 am.**

## **AGENDA ITEMS:**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **A. CAAG 208 AWWQMP Update Amendment for Gold Canyon Sewer Company Service Area Expansion (CAAG 208 ID #2008-1)**

Gold Canyon Sewer Company (GCSC) and their engineers, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, have submitted a Draft 208 Amendment for the Gold Canyon Sewer Company Service Area Expansion. The plan will affirm the area currently serviced by GCSC under an existing Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CC&N) issued by the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC), and add two subdivisions to its service area.

The current service area, defined by the CC&N is 4,800 acres. GCSC proposes to add 135 acres to the area, for a total of 4,935 acres, with an approximate 13,407 residents to be served at buildout. The Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) currently in operation, has a buildout capacity of 1.9 MGD. The proposed amendment will bring the amount of flow into the WWTF to 1.6 MGD, below the 85% threshold that would require a plan to expand the facility.

Effluent is, and will continue to be treated to A+ quality, and is used for beneficial reuse and recharge, with no discharges into a Waters of the US, eliminating the need for an AZPDES permit.

Representatives from Kennedy/Jenks, and Gold Canyon Sewer Company will be present to answer questions.

#### **EPC Options:**

1. Recommend approval of the plan, contingent upon the issuance of a CC&N from the ACC within two (2) years of CAAG Regional Council approval
2. Recommend denial of the plan
3. Recommend modifications to the plan, and continue through the process
4. Table the technical review

#### **B. CAAG 208 AWWQMP Update Amendment for Desert Springs Utilities Company Water Reclamation Facility (CAAG 208 ID #2008-1)**

Desert Springs Utilities Company (DSUC) has submitted an amendment for the construction of a new Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF). The facility will serve a new development known as Cañada del Oro, approximately 30 miles north of Tucson, and 5 miles southwest of the unincorporated community of Oracle. The WRF will be located in the western portion of Section 12, Township 10 South, Range 14 East, east of the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian. DSUC will be the utility operator.

At buildout, the facility will serve approximately 4,670 people, including residents, a 400-room hotel, and a transient population at an educational institution, on 1,658 acres. The service area will be primarily residential, along with some commercial development (primarily a hotel), and recreational/open space. The WRF will be built over a period of fifteen years, in three phases.

At buildout, the capacity of the WRF will be 360,000 gpd (0.36 MGD). Effluent will be treated to A+ quality standards and primarily be used for beneficial reuse and recharge via direct injection wells. This plan has been developed with the plan of enhancing a riparian habitat located in an unnamed wash, tributary Cañada del Oro Wash, a Waters of the United States. As a result, DSUC will seek an

Arizona Pollution Discharge Elimination System (AZPDES) permit

Representatives from Kennedy/Jenks, and Desert Springs Utilities Company/CDO Ranching and Development will be present to answer questions.

EPC Options:

1. Recommend approval of the plan contingent upon the issuance of a CC&N from the ACC within two (2) years of CAAG Regional Council approval
2. Recommend denial of the plan
3. Recommend modifications to the plan, and continue through the process
4. Table the technical review

**C. Update on Silverbell Army National Guard Heliport Wastewater Treatment Facility (CAAG 208 ID #2007-12)**

In September 2007, ADEMA and engineer HydroGeoChem approached the Committee with an amendment for new construction of the Silverbell Army National Guard Heliport WWTF. At this meeting, the Committee elected to table the item to allow ADEMA to revise its plan to take the following into consideration:

- A change in effluent quality from B+ to A+
- Revisit effluent management – e. g. instead of discharge – reuse and recharge (this coincides with effluent quality, since B+ cannot be reused for some applications that require partial body contact)
- If discharge is still sought, those downstream who may be affected should be notified and be provided the opportunity to comment, particularly the State Land Department

This item was due to return to the Committee in November 2007, but ADEMA had not submitted changes or rationale for its application. Staff has attempted to keep in touch with the applicant via its engineer for the past year, with varying degrees of information. As the one-year mark approached, Staff again contacted both the engineer and ADEMA attempting to receive information. On August 8<sup>th</sup>, Staff received an e-mail from ADEMA, indicating that they “will no longer be pursuing CAAG approval for the WWTP” at the site. Staff was then referred to the Army National Guard Judge Advocate General for any questions regarding this item. At present, after multiple attempts, CAAG has not been able to receive any information regarding this plan.

It has been requested that the Committee discuss the issue and give direction to Staff on how to or if to proceed with this application.

EPC Options:

1. Provide direction for Staff to pursue
  - \* ***Please note that any action that may require CAAG to involve elected officials or take legal action must be approved by the CAAG Executive Director and/or CAAG Regional Council.***

**D. Environmental Planning Committee Member Appointment**

The City of Maricopa is in the process of applying for Designated Management Agency status. As a condition of being a DMA, a representative from the DMA should sit on the Committee. Kazi Haque, Planning Manager from the City of Maricopa, has elected to serve on the Committee.

EPC Options:

1. Recommend the appointment of Kazi Haque to the Committee
2. Recommend denial of the appointment
3. Make recommendations of other potential members

**E. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**

The Committee each year must choose its leadership. Currently, Don Gabrielson serves as Chair, and Reg Glos as Vice-Chair. The Committee has the option to keep current leadership or make changes as appropriate.

EPC Options:

1. Elect Chair and Vice-Chair

**Enclosed:**

- ❖ Gold Canyon Sewer Company CAAG 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Plan – 208 Plan Amendment. July 2008.
- ❖ Desert Springs Utilities Company CAAG 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Plan – 208 Plan Amendment. August 2008.
- ❖ Staff Report

**STAFF REPORT**

- ◆ Current amendments in review process:
  - ◆ Apache Junction DMA – about to submit a final draft – agreements reached between Queen Creek, Mesa, and Apache Junction
  - ◆ Superstition Mountains Community Facilities District – will move with AJ DMA
  - ◆ City of Casa Grande – in the process of finalizing a draft – getting support from surrounding entities
- ◆ Other amendments
  - ◆ City of Maricopa – exploring the formation of a DMA – in the process of hiring engineering firm, gaining local support
  - ◆ Silverbell Army National Guard Heliport – at this time, staff has received information that they will no longer pursue a 208 Amendment, however, has not elaborated on if they still intend to construct a facility in the area.