



Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection

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February 14, 2014

Arizona Center for Law
in the Public Interest
Arizona League of Conservation
Voters Education Fund
Arizona Native Plant Society
Bat Conservation International
Cascabel Conservation
Association
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Environmental
Connections
Center for Environmental Ethics
Defenders of Wildlife
Desert Watch
Drylands Institute
Empire Fagan Coalition
Environmental and Cultural
Conservation Organization
Environmental Law Society
Friends of Cabeza Prieta
Friends of Ironwood Forest
Friends of Madera Canyon
Friends of Saguaro National
Park
Friends of Tortolita
Gates Pass Area Neighborhood
Association
Native Seeds/SEARCH
Neighborhood Coalition of
Greater Tucson
Northwest Neighborhoods
Alliance
Protect Land and
Neighborhoods
Safford Peak Watershed
Education Team
Save the Scenic Santa Ritas
Sierra Club-Grand Canyon
Chapter
Sierra Club-Rincon Group
Silverbell Mountain Alliance
Sky Island Alliance
Sky Island Watch
Society for Ecological
Restoration
Sonoran Arthropod
Studies Institute
Sonoran Permaculture Guild
Southwestern Biological
Institute
Tortolita Homeowners
Association
Tucson Audubon Society
Tucson Herpetological Society
Tucson Mountains Association
Wildlands Network
Women for Sustainable
Technologies

Sharon Bronson, Chair
Pima County Board of Supervisors
130 W. Congress St. 11th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

RE: Proposed Redington Water Conservation District

Dear Chair Bronson and Supervisors,

The Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection, representing 41 conservation and community groups, would like to voice opposition to the petition to establish the proposed Redington Water Conservation District that you will be considering at your February 18, 2014 meeting.

The Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection has numerous concerns regarding the creation of the Redington Water Conservation District. Our concerns are centered on the following areas: 1) potential impacts to adjacent County conservation lands, 2) potential impacts to the San Pedro River and covered species in the County's Multi-Species Conservation Plan that depend on the San Pedro River for survival, 3) these potential groundwater and surface water supply impacts would adversely impact the proposed Lower San Pedro National Wildlife Refuge; and 4) compelling need for further legal analysis and a general lack of information that makes it difficult to assess the consequences of creating this new irrigation district.

We feel that the formation of this District is not in the best interest of Pima County, and the Board of Supervisors should reject this proposal and not call an election for the Redington Water Conservation District.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Campbell
Executive Director