



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Trevor Baggio
Director, Water Quality Division
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
1110 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Mr. Baggio:

On August 24, 2016, EPA received certification from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) that the Central Arizona Governments (CAG) approved the update of their Clean Water Act (CWA) §208 Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP), that the update is consistent with Arizona's Continuing Planning Process (CPP), and the CAG WQMP. The letter explains that CAG is the Designated Planning Agency for Gila and Pinal Counties under CWA §208.

40 C.F.R. 130.6(e) provides that state and/or area wide agency WQMP's be updated as appropriate, that states ensure WQMP's include all necessary plan elements, that they are consistent with one another, that states certify updated WQMP's, and submit certification to EPA for approval.

EPA has reviewed ADEQ's certification that the WQMP addresses all the elements required by 40 CFR Part 130, including: TMDLs, effluent limitations, municipal and industrial waste treatment, nonpoint source management and control, management agencies, implementation measures, and ground water. EPA acknowledges that the WQMP update incorporates streamlining of the WQMP process, as well as, providing innovative strategies and tactics to achieve water quality protection and improvement. ADEQ's letter certifies that the WQMP update is consistent with Arizona's CPP and WQMP elements stated in 40 C.F.R. 130.6(c).

EPA approves the WQMP update based on the documentation and certification submitted by ADEQ. Please feel free to contact me at 415-973-3337, or your staff may contact Jared Vollmer at 415-972-3447.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tomás Torres".

Tomás Torres, Director
Water Division

11/23/2016

Cc: Edwina Vogan, ADEQ