



**Keep those calls and emails coming and
Join us for an Earth Day Rally!**



April 15, 2022

Hi everyone!

This week at the Arizona Legislature, legislators did even less than last week and both chambers adjourned early. We hear that there are behind-closed-door meetings going on, but who knows, the doors are closed. We also hear that the majority may be working on a "skinny budget," which means a minimal budget just to finish up and get out of there. So far, we have seen nothing and there is also no more news on the big water bill.

Down the road a bit at the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC), there was some good news. The ACC denied a certificate of Environmental Compatibility for a huge gas plant expansion in Coolidge by a vote of 4-1. This plant would have caused great harm to the community of Randolph, a historic community of predominantly people of color. It was good to see environmental justice seriously considered and this Salt River Project proposal firmly rejected. There is still more work to do to reduce harms in Randolph and more work to do to get SRP on track with clean energy, but this is a big victory. [Read more here](#). Thank you to everyone who helped stop the plant, especially the Randolph residents.

This week, the Legislature took no action on any of the bills we are fighting, so please go ahead and keep the emails and calls coming on the following bills.

[HB2411 coal combustion residuals program](#) (Griffin) is again on the Third Read Calendar in the Senate for Monday. If it passes, it will be on its way to the Governor, who will most certainly sign it. HB2411 authorizes the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) to seek assumption of the coal ash program from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Coal ash is toxic and can result in contamination of our waters if not adequately regulated. ADEQ is far too cozy with the utilities for us to feel confident that it would properly enforce this program, plus ADEQ is already failing to adequately implement clean water programs.

[Email and call your Senator here to oppose HB2411!](#)

(Note that you can find your senator's phone number and also send an email using this link.)

[HB2101 electric energy; reliability; public policy](#) (Griffin: Abraham, Blackman, et al.) is still alive in the Senate and could come back any time. It repeals provisions in the law that create parameters for retail competition of electricity. HB2101 does nothing to protect consumers as proponents, including the state's three largest utilities, would have you believe. It could negatively affect community choice aggregation of electricity which allows cities to purchase or generate electricity for their residents, as well as rooftop solar in Salt River Project (SRP) territory. SRP brought this to the legislature without a stakeholder process or thorough review of the impacts of the bill. Help keep up the pressure on senators to vote no. SRP et al. have hired an army of lobbyists to push this bill through. **Call your senators and ask them to hold firm on voting NO!**

[You can find senator's phone numbers here.](#)

[HB2181 Now: game and fish; taking wolves](#) (Cook) is on the Senate Committee of the Whole calendar for Monday. It forbids the Arizona Game and Fish Commission from prohibiting any person from killing a wolf that is actively threatening or attacking a person (unnecessary as anyone can kill an animal if they feel threatened), livestock, or other domestic animal. These latter provisions will invite baiting of wolves and send a message that it is okay to kill these highly endangered animals.

[Call and email your senator and ask them to vote no on HB2181!](#)

[HB2055 Harquahala non-expansion area; groundwater transportation](#) (Griffin: Bowers) still awaits Senate Committee of the Whole. This bill allows private water companies such as EPCOR to pump groundwater in the Harquahala Valley and into the active management areas (AMAs) for development. We are opposed to this bill as it makes bad water policy worse. Keep the calls coming on this too.

[Call and email your senator to oppose HB2055!](#)

To view bills we are tracking [go here](#).

To find your legislators' email addresses and phone numbers, [go here](#).

Thank you for helping protect our communities!

All the best,



Sandy Bahr
Chapter Director
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter

FIGHT FOR OUR FUTURE

RALLY FOR CLIMATE,
CARE, JOBS, AND JUSTICE

APRIL 23
STATE CAPITOL
3PM-6PM
PHOENIX, AZ



Join Us for an Earth Day Rally on April 23!

To mark Earth Day this year, Sierra Club is joining a nationwide mobilization to pressure our elected leaders to pass bold climate and clean energy investments in the US Senate. On Saturday, April 23, Arizonans are rallying for Climate, Care, Jobs, Justice here in Phoenix because now is the time to give it everything we've got.

Saturday, April 23, 2022
3:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Arizona State Capitol
[1700 W Washington St,](#)
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

[RSVP here.](#)

