



Tell Governor Ducey to Veto Discriminatory Voter Bill Water and Budget Both at Impasse



May 27, 2022

Hi everyone!

We took a couple of weeks off from sending out legislative updates due to the inactivity at the Capitol, but there is a little bit to catch up on. There is still no state budget and there is no agreement on a budget and there is still no agreement on a path forward regarding water. We have heard that the Governor will not sign a budget until the Legislature sends him a water bill that includes provisions for the water authority. That is a change from what we heard last week, which was that the Legislature would likely hold a special session on water in August.

On the water front, we have expressed our concerns about the Governor's proposed Arizona Water Authority and its focus on big water projects and its unaccountable and opaque structure. We have asked that the Legislature prioritize conservation, require environmental reviews, and actually do more to limit groundwater pumping and protect rivers. Read more about the Arizona Water Authority at [Money, conservation slows water authority bill](#). **Tell your legislators that we need a plan to conserve and better limit groundwater pumping, protect rivers, and recognize the connection between ground and surface water, among other things.**

The bad news for this past week is the Legislature advanced some of the anti-democracy bills. On the Governor's desk is a measure that codifies discrimination in the law. [HB2617 voter registration; cancellations; causes](#) (Chaplik: Barton, Biasiucci, et al.)

directs county recorders to scrutinize voters, and possibly remove them from the rolls, if the county recorder "has reason to believe" the voter is not a U.S. citizen. And just how will they do that? The last thing we need is more discrimination based on race, ethnicity, and national origin.

Call Governor Ducey at (602) 542-1331 and ask him to veto HB2617.

In the good news category, [HB2238 ballot drop boxes; prohibition](#) (Hoffman: Barton, Blackman, et al.) was defeated 14-15-1 in the Senate. It would have prohibited unmonitored drop boxes for ballots, making it more difficult for voters to drop off their early ballots.

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

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

Thank you for taking action!

All the best,



Sandy Bahr
Chapter Director
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter



Coolidge Generating Station photo by Caryn Potter

Tell the ACC to Hold Strong Against the Coolidge Gas Plant Expansion!

Salt River Project (SRP), Arizona's second-largest electric utility, has filed a petition for rehearing with the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) asking it to reconsider its 4-1 vote

to deny a certificate of environmental compatibility for expansion of the Coolidge Generating Station, a gas-fired power plant. The 16 new gas units would be on top of the 12 units already there and would more than double the size of the facility.

After significant opposition to the plant from local Randolph residents and clean energy advocates, as well as a strong record on why the siting should be denied, the ACC denied the CEC on April 12th.

This plant expansion could lock in decades of new fossil-fuel use, all while Arizona sits in the bull's eye of climate change. Key concerns about the plant are the impacts on air quality, additional climate harming emissions, the fact that SRP did not seriously consider cleaner, more environmentally friendly alternatives, and that the facility expansion will disproportionately impact the community of Randolph, which is predominantly a community of color that has already suffered the effects of environmental racism.

We want the ACC to stick with its decision to say no to this plant expansion.

Send a comment opposing the rehearing [here](#). Tell the ACC to hold strong in denying this permit. You will need to enter the docket number L-00000B-21-0393-00197 in order to comment using this form.

Thank you!

