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Arizona House of Representatives
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

DISTRICT 30

February 18, 2009

Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords (AZ-08)
1728 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Giffords,

I wish to support the Santa Cruz Valley Citizens Council's (SCVCC) request for \$900,000 in funding from the 2011 Appropriations Bill for payment towards a Government mandated arsenic treatment facility.

Much of the Tubac community is serviced by Arizona American Water and has a small customer base of 532 households. An arsenic removal facility was mandated by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to comply with EPA regulations. The \$2.3 million cost of this facility will put a tremendous financial burden on the Tubac customers. Fortunately, a \$1.15 million grant was received from the Water Infrastructure Financing Authority reduced the total cost to customers. The remaining amount to be financed would still require a much larger than average customer cost versus the cost that would be expected on a larger customer-based water system. The SCVCC proposes in its 2011 Appropriations Funding Request that the Tubac water customers bear the same cost as other larger systems would be expected to shoulder, approximately \$450 to \$500 per customer or \$250,000. The SCVCC therefore requests that \$900,000 be considered in the application for federal funding. Without this help in funding, water bills in Tubac will double the national average as projected by the Congressional Budget Office.

Tubac is a rural community made up primarily of retirees on modest fixed incomes and shop owners that are struggling in these economic times. The customers that must pay for this arsenic treatment facility imposed by Government regulation should not be penalized because they are part of a small water district.

Please give utmost consideration to the request by the SCVCC and endorse this funding application on behalf of the Tubac community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Antenori", written over a horizontal line.

Representative Frank Antenori
Legislative District 30