UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

AUG 27 2015

Ms. Lizann Michaud

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Subject: Letters to Administrator McCarthy (AX-15-001-2823 and -2434) regarding the "Villages at Vigneto" development near Benson, AZ

Dear Ms. Michaud:

Thank you for your inquiry to the Administrator regarding the proposed development known as Vigneto in the San Pedro River watershed. EPA Region 9, which has responsibility for Arizona, is pleased to provide this response.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is the federal permitting authority tasked with authorizing discharges of dredged or fill material to waters of the United States pursuant to §404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). In 2014, The Corps transferred a §404 permit from a project proposed for this site known as Whetstone Ranch to the developers of the Vigneto project. We have contacted the Corps and have been informed they are gathering information about the proposed site development changes that may have been made since the permit was issued to Whetstone in 2006, including those affecting jurisdictional waters, to determine whether the new plan for Vigneto warrants further review under their CWA authorities. EPA Region 9 is awaiting the Corps' decision prior to recommending any further action.

Thank you for taking the time to provide us with your thoughts about the proposed project. If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Goldmann of my staff at 415-972-3398, or goldmann.elizabeth@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Jason Brush
Supervisor
Wetlands Section

Ec:
David Castanon, Regulatory Division Chief, Corps Los Angeles District
Sallie Diebolt, Chief, Arizona Section, Corps Los Angeles District

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