



August 26, 2024

The Honorable Brian Schatz
Chairman
Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
838 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Vice Chairman
Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
838 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Request for Hearing on the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Act of 2024 (S.4705)

Dear Chairman Schatz and Vice Chairman Murkowski:

As Mayor for the City of Cottonwood, I request that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs hold a hearing on the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Act of 2024 ([S.4705](#)) at its earliest convenience.

The Yavapai-Apache Nation is one of our neighbors in the Verde Valley. Cottonwood enjoys a cooperative, mutually respectful, and beneficial government-to-government relationship with the Nation.

To this end, the City has worked closely with the Nation for many years on a mutually beneficial water rights Settlement Agreement which will also benefit the shared resource of the Verde River, as well as the larger Verde Valley region.

Thank you for your leadership on Indian water rights settlements generally. I hope you will promptly hold a hearing on the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Act of 2024 (S.4705). I appreciate your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Mayor
City of Cottonwood