



August 23, 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:

On behalf of the Town of Camp Verde (Town), I respectfully request the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs hold a hearing on the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Act of 2024 ([S.4705](#)) (Settlement) as soon as practical.

The Yavapai-Apache Nation and Town are neighbors in the Verde Valley. The Town's land and water future are closely intertwined with those of the Nation. Our Town and the Nation enjoy a cooperative, respectful, and constructive government-to-government relationship with shared goals and objectives. To this end, the Town has worked closely with the Nation for many years to complete a mutually beneficial Settlement that will help achieve water security for the Town and the Nation, while also benefitting the health and vitality of the Verde River and the Verde Valley region as a whole.

I thank you for your leadership on Indian water rights settlements generally and we hope you will promptly hold a hearing on this Settlement. We appreciate your attention to this request.

Respectfully,

Steve Wene

Attorney for Town of Camp Verde