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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF APACHE

IN RE THE GENERAL
ADJUDICATION OF ALL RIGHTS
TO USE WATER IN THE LITTLE
COLORADO RIVER SYSTEM AND
SOURCE

CV6417

Contested Case **CV6417-33-6893**

ORDER FOR STATUS REPORT

CONTESTED CASE NAME: *In re Kenneth L. and Joy Abrams*
HSR INVOLVED: Silver Creek Hydrographic Survey.
DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: Claimants are ordered to file a status report no later than **June 26, 2026**.
NUMBER OF PAGES: 3

On January 14, 2026, the Arizona Department of Water Resources (“ADWR”) filed responses to questions regarding Open ET¹ posed by the Special Master in an October 7, 2025, status conference for this contested case. The questions were the result of an earlier statement by ADWR that the agency “prefers the Open ET methodology to quantify irrigation uses . . .” over the Penman-Monteith methodology.² However, despite this preference, ADWR has also indicated, that in the event irrigation quantification must be reevaluated for a contested case arising out of the 1991 San Pedro watershed

¹ OpenET is an open-sourced data platform of evapotranspiration rates to assist farmers and water managers with accurately tracking water consumption. *See generally* ADWR Notice of filing Report and Recommendation Regarding the Penman-Monteith Methodology, September 9, 2025

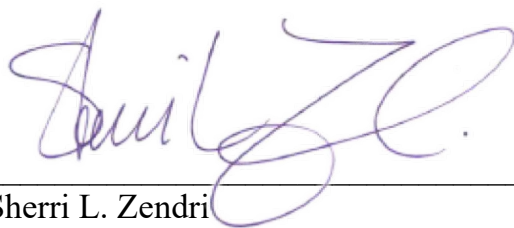
² ADWR Notice of Filing Report and Recommendation Regarding the Penman-Monteith Methodology at 5, September 9, 2025.

1 Hydrographic Survey Report, ADWR will use the same “quantification methodology as
2 was use at the time of the publication of the original WFR [watershed file report],”³ which
3 was the Penmen Monteith methodology. In other words, either methodology is
4 satisfactory for these contested cases, so long as the appropriate data is available.
5 However, before any irrigation quantity can be considered, there are a number of
6 threshold issues that must be resolved.

7 **IT IS ORDERED** that Joy Abrams shall file no later than **June 26, 2026**, a status
8 report that includes, at a minimum:

- 9 1) Confirmation that **all final** statements of Claimant have been filed and or
10 updated with ADWR.
- 11 2) Declaration of an appropriate legal basis for the claimed right. The water rights
12 statement of claim filing, 36-67708, claims a date of beneficial first use as
13 1970. A water rights statement of claim is only appropriate for beneficial water
14 uses that began prior to June 18, 1919; therefore, 36-67708 is not an
15 appropriate basis of right.

16
17 Signed this 24th day of April 2026



18
19
20 Sherri L. Zendri
21 Special Water Master

22 On April 24, 2026, the original of the
23 foregoing was delivered to the Clerk of the
24 Apache County Superior Court for filing and
25 distributing a copy to all persons listed on the
26 Court-approved mailing list for this contested
27 case, a copy of which is attached.

28 *Emily Natale*

³ ADWR Notice of Filing Report at 2-3, January 14, 2026.

Court Approved Mailing List
In re Kenneth L. and Joy Abrams
CV6417-33-6893 (17 Names)
Prepared by the Special Master
4/24/2026

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