6

7

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

8 IN RE THE GENERAL 9

> ADJUDICATION OF ALL RIGHTS TO USE WATER IN THE GILA

RIVER SYSTEM AND SOURCE

W-1, W-2, W-3, W-4 (Consolidated)

Contested Case Nos. W1-11-2801; W1-207

DENIAL OF GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUITY'S CROSS-MOTION FOR **DECLARATORY RELIEF** 

13 14

15

16

17

18

19

21

22

10

11

12

CONTESTED CASE NAME: In re ASARCO-Irrigation; In re Proposed Gila River Indian Community Water Rights Settlement

HSR INVOLVED: San Pedro River Watershed Hydrographic Survey Report

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: Denial of the Gila River Indian Community's Cross-Motion for Declaratory Relief.

On April 2, 2024, the Gila River Indian Community ("Community") sent a letter to

**NUMBER OF PAGES: 2** 

the Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR") requesting "Enforcement against 20

ASARCO's diversion of San Pedro River water in violation of the Gila River Indian Community's time immemorial right to Gila River water." Community Letter to ADWR

23 24

at 1 (April 2, 2024). On July 24, 2024, ADWR requested direction form the Court regarding the letter from the Community. On August 9, 2024, the Court denied ADWR's

25

request for direction on how to proceed regarding the Community's letter, reasoning that

26

27

"[a]ny advice from the Court, including entertaining oral arguments on the matter, at this juncture would be premature, inappropriate, and potentially prejudicial." Denial of

28

ADWR's Request for Direction at 2 (August 9, 2024) ("Denial").

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Declaratory Relief. 11 12 Signed this 26 day of August 13 14 15 16 17 18 the Clerk of the Maricopa County Superior Court on 10008 26, 2024 19 filing and distributing a copy to all persons 20 listed on the Court approved mailing list for these contested cases. 21 Emily Natale 26 27

The Community filed a Response to ADWR's Request for Direction and Cross-Motion for Declaratory Relief ("Cross-Motion") on August 7, 2024; however, the Cross-Motion did not get delivered to the General Stream Adjudication offices until August 12, 2024, and was therefore not addressed in the Court's Denial. The Community requests declaratory relief from the Adjudication Court that "ADWR has the duty and authority to promptly investigate and take action on the Community's complaint." Cross-Motion at 9.

The August 9, 2024 Denial provides as much guidance on this topic from the Adjudication Court as is appropriate at this point. Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED denying Gila River Indian Community's Cross-Motion for

2024

Sherri L. Zendri Special Master

The original of the foregoing was delivered to

22

23

25

28