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

CV 6417; 6417-203

ORDER DENYING EXPEDITED
CONSIDERATION OF NAVAJO
NATION'S MOTION TO
DESIGNATE ISSUES OF BROAD
LEGAL IMPORTANCE REGARDING
TRIBAL FEDERAL RESERVED
WATER RIGHTS

The deadline for filing dispositive motions in *In re Hopi Reservation HSR* occurred on April 27, 2018. On July 16, 2018, the Navajo Nation filed a motion to designate issues regarding the quantification, priority, enforcement and administration of federal reserved water rights on Indian reservation as issues of broad legal importance. To the extent that the motion is intended to resolve issues as a matter of law in *In re Hopi Reservation HSR*, it is untimely.

The motion was treated as properly filed under the Rules for Proceedings Before the Special Master §12. A schedule for consideration of the motion having been set pursuant to Pre-Trial Order No. 1, the Navajo Nation now seeks an order expediting the process to consider whether the issues identified should be designated as issues of broad legal importance. Assuming that the motion is granted, it further seeks an expedited schedule to

resolve the issues before September 11, 2018, the beginning of the trial on past and present uses in *In re Hopi Reservation*, a case which has been pending for two years.

Fair notice and an opportunity to be heard by the parties to the general adjudications cannot be accomplished in the weeks remaining before the beginning of the trial. The Navajo Nation's motion will be heard in an orderly manner under the schedule as currently set.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED denying the Navajo Nation's Motion Seeking Expedited Consideration of its Motion to Designate Issues of Broad Legal Importance Regarding Tribal Federal Reserved Water Rights.

DATED this 27th day of July, 2018.

Susan Ward Harris Special Master

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On July 27, 2018, the original of the foregoing was delivered to the Clerk of the Apache County Superior Court for filing and distributing a copy to all persons listed on the Court approved mailing list for 6417 and 6417-203.