



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

NOV 21 2012

Mr. Henry R. Darwin
Director
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
1110 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Mr. Darwin:

We have received your certification letter and recommendation for approval of the *South Eastern Arizona Governments Organization (SEAGO) Section 208 Water Quality Management Plan, February 23, 2012*, pursuant to the requirements of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1288) § 208(b)(1)(A).

We understand SEAGO, a Designated Planning Agency (DPA) for the southeastern counties of Cochise, Graham, Greenlee and Santa Cruz, adopted a new 208 approach for water quality planning. SEAGO was designated as a DPA on July 8, 1970, under Section 208 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) (Public Law 92-500).

SEAGO developed its original Water Quality Management (WQM) Plan in 1978. In 1980, and again in 1994, the plan was updated. This plan is the third update to the original plan. The approach described in the plan allows for increased public participation and informed decision-making resulting in a more efficient planning process for water quality management.

Our review indicates SEAGO's WQM Plan addresses all the elements required by 40 CFR Part 130, Water Quality Management Plans, including TMDLs, effluent limitations, municipal and industrial waste treatment, nonpoint source management and control, management agencies, implementation measures and ground water. EPA hereby approves the *SEAGO Section 208 Water Quality Management Plan, February 23, 2012*.

EPA supports the ongoing efforts of the State, counties and the COGs to ensure protection of Arizona's water resources. If you have any questions regarding this approval, please have staff contact Jared Vollmer of my staff at 972-3447.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nancy Woo".

Nancy Woo
Acting Director
Water Division

cc: Linda Taunt, ADEQ Water Quality Division
Edwina Vogen, ADEQ Water Quality Division