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December 16, 2019

The Honorable David Bernhardt
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC. 20240

Dear Secretary Bernhardt:

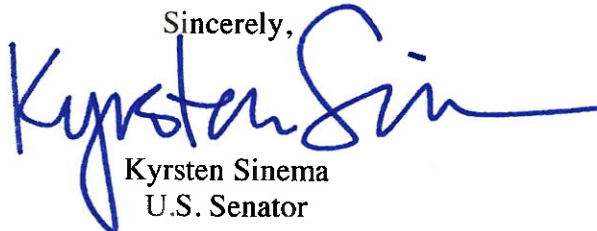
I am writing to request an update on steps the Department of the Interior is taking to ensure the long-term solvency of the Lower Colorado River Basin Development Fund (Basin Fund).

Indian water settlements create economic stability for Arizona tribes and surrounding communities while improving water certainty for neighboring communities. The Basin Fund supports infrastructure projects and a portion of water delivery costs from the Central Arizona Project for a number of Arizona tribes with existing water settlements. Additionally, it is anticipated that Arizona tribes working towards water settlements in the future will rely on the Basin Fund.

Please provide me with up-to-date information on steps the Department of the Interior is taking to ensure the long-term solvency of the Basin Fund. It is important that the Department of the Interior use its discretion under the Arizona Water Settlements Act to guarantee that the Basin Fund is able to meet its obligations under current and future Indian water settlements. The long-term solvency of the Basin Fund is critical for Arizona's water future.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Kyrsten Sinema
U.S. Senator