

Courthouse News Service

Environmentalists Demand Water Documents

By TIM HULL

TUCSON (CN) - The Center for Biological Diversity demands that the City of Prescott reveal documents on a water project that could deplete the Verde River, one of the last perennial rivers in the state. The group wants to see engineering and scientific documents for the Big Chino Water Ranch pipeline project, which city officials say is needed to make water availability in growing north central Arizona.



The center says it asked for the documents a year ago, and adding that key engineering reports are missing from those the material the city has released.

"If the city insists on taking actions that will impact the Verde River and downstream communities, it should at least have the integrity to share the details of those actions with the public," said the center's attorney, Howard Shanker, in a press release. "This suit is just the first step in holding the city accountable."

The Center for Biological Diversity sued in Yavapai County Court.