

JOHN McCAIN
ARIZONA

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE
AND TRANSPORTATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING
SELECT COMMITTEE ON POW/MIA AFFAIRS

924593

United States Senate

111 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0303
(202) 224-2235

TELEPHONE FOR HEARING IMPAIRED
(202) 224-7132

151 NORTH CENTENNIAL WAY
SUITE 1000
MESA, AZ 85201
(602) 835-8994

5353 NORTH 16TH STREET
SUITE 190
PHOENIX, AZ 85016
(602) 640-2567

5151 EAST BROADWAY
SUITE 170
TUCSON, AZ 85711
(602) 670-6334

October 9, 1992

The Honorable William Reilly
Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20507

Dear Bill:

I know you share my intense interest in improving wastewater treatment in the area of Nogales, Arizona.

I greatly appreciate your ongoing efforts to improve environmental protection in the border region. As you are aware, following the recommendation of the International Border Environment Plan (IBEP), the President requested \$5 million in the fiscal year 1993 budget request for Nogales Wastewater Treatment facilities. Unfortunately, Congress did not provide this funding in the FY 1993 appropriations bill.

Nonetheless, as you recognize, upgrading treatment works in Nogales is crucial to protecting public health and the environment throughout the region. Accordingly, I would like to request that EPA either reprogram \$5 million out of existing funds, or earmark the amount from an appropriate account, to meet wastewater treatment needs at the Nogales plant.

I know you are aware of the importance of this matter. Thank you for your consideration. Please know that I will help in any way I can to help us reach a successful conclusion. I look forward to hearing from you.

With warmest regards, I remain

Sincerely,


John McCain
United States Senator

JM/jr

cc: LaJuana Wilcher
Tim Atkeson

10/14/92



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 8 1993

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Honorable John McCain
United States Senate
111 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-0303

Dear Senator McCain:

Thank you for your letter of October 9, 1992 expressing your interest in the environment and especially the Nogales project.

The Administration has made every effort to increase funding to the colonias including Nogales. As you know, the Agency requested \$5 million for Nogales in the 1993 President's Budget. Congress considered our request for funding but did not include this project in the 1993 Appropriations Bill. This leaves the Agency no options with which to fund this project. The Agency cannot reprogram or tap funds within the Construction Grants account because the appropriations bill language directs all of the Construction Grants funds to specific purposes leaving no room for discretion by the Agency.

We appreciate your support of our effort to clean up the colonias and your particular interest in the Nogales project. We look forward to working with you to improve the health and environmental conditions of the Americans living along the Mexican border.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill".

William K. Reilly

P. S. I made the colonias a major priority in hearings and letters, stressed that they have the highest risks in the country and did get some funds back in. But this will continue to require work, John.