

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Metro Water Expands

Tucson – Metro Water District increased its boundaries with the annexation of 619 acres that will become the Arboles Viejos subdivision, just west of Marana.

“When we considered serving water to Arboles Viejos, our first concern was the impact upon our existing customers,” said Suzanne Downing, Chair of Metro’s Board of Directors. “We proceeded with annexation when we recognized expanding our service area would benefit our customers by strengthening our finances, add to our voice in regional water issues, and provide an economy of scale.”

Developers of the new subdivision approached Metro Water to manage the water service. Metro Water wanted to not just be the water provider but to have the area annexed so that all of its customers would have full representation with its water provider. The petition for annexation was submitted to and approved by the Metro Water Board at a public meeting last month.

Arboles Viejos is projected to have eventually 1,850 homes with construction starting in May 2006. The water system will include rehabilitating one well, constructing another well, installing transmission mains, and building a storage facility. The subdivision is located near Trico Road and Avra Valley Road.

“We wondered if it was odd to serve water so far from our primary service area,” said Downing. “We then started thinking, why not? We have the experience from acquiring the Hub Water Company. Plus, the infrastructure will be all new.”

State statutes allow Metro Water District to serve water to and annex a non-contiguous area; however, the Town of Marana’s consent was necessary since the area was within six miles of a town.

“Marana gladly approved Metro Water’s annexation of Arboles Viejos,” said Mike Reuwsaat, Town Manager of Marana. “We have been neighbors with Metro Water for quite some time and know that they are good managers of water.” The Town Council consented to the annexation last week.

Metro Water District is a public water provider provides water to more than 42,000 residents in northwest metropolitan Tucson and 4,500 residents near Sabino Canyon.

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