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**Contact: Regina Lynde 602-240-6860 ext. 1212** 

## Arizona Water Company's Miami and Winkelman Water System Named Environmental Partner by Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has added another two Arizona Water Company (AWC) water systems, Miami and Winkelman, to its Voluntary Environmental Stewardship Program (VESP), Bronze Level. The VESP recognizes Arizona businesses and other organizations that have a good history of environmental compliance and strive to go beyond what is required to protect public health and the environment, according to ADEQ.

The Bronze Level recognizes organizations that demonstrate strong environmental compliance for the past three years, and the Miami and Winkelman water systems clearly demonstrate environmental excellence and leadership in drinking water operations, according to ADEQ.

The Miami and Winkelman water systems will join the Pinetop Lakes, Bisbee, and Sierra Vista water systems on the VESP webpage and become eligible for possible incentives that will support environmental programs, help reduce costs, and spur innovation.

"Arizona Water serves communities all over the state; from Sedona in the north to Bisbee in the south," said Fred Schneider, president of the company. "We are here to serve these communities. Most of the people who work for us live in the

communities we serve. Our managers and staff in the Miami and Winkelman systems work very hard to keep the system working the way it should, so we take great satisfaction in getting recognized by the State of Arizona for what we do."

The VESP recognizes and awards incentives to Arizona businesses and other organizations that have a good history of environmental compliance and strive to go beyond what is legally required to protect public health and the environment, according to ADEQ.

Arizona Water Company serves more than 250,000 Arizonans in 25 different water systems that stretch from the Bisbee-Sierra Vista area in the south to Sedona in the north. The Company has been operating in the state for 68 years.

"When you live and work in a community, you do your best to take care of it," said Freddy Rios, Division Manager of the Miami, and Falcon Valley Division, which includes the Miami and Winkelman water systems. "That's why we all deeply appreciate this honor and the opportunity to take care of our community and our customers."