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**Arizona Water Company's Sierra Vista Water System
Named Environmental Partner by Arizona
Department of Environmental Quality**

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has added another Arizona Water Company (AWC) water system, this one in Sierra Vista, 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 Sierra Vista water system clearly demonstrates environmental excellence and leadership in drinking water operations, according to ADEQ.

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

"The addition of three of Arizona Water's water systems to this state program is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff to protect the environment and serve our customers," said Fred Schneider, president of the company. "Our

managers and staff in all three water systems work very hard to keep the system working the way it should, and environmental programs are a high priority.”

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.

“We always strive to go beyond expectations, especially when it comes to drinking water quality and the environment,” said Frank Cabello, Division Manager of the Cochise Division, which includes the Sierra Vista water system. “It’s a real morale booster for our workers to know that the state recognizes our efforts.”

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