United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 21, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington DC 20460

Dear Secretary Salazar and Administrator Jackson:

As you know, the Lower Colorado River is a critical water source for several of the driest states in the country. Local governments are working hard to safeguard their water supplies, ensure that water quality standards are met, and deal with invasive species.

To better understand the federal resources available to address these issues, we request that you provide our offices with information pertaining to any existing federal authority and resources that are available to (1) plan, design, and construct municipal wastewater treatment systems for on-river communities in Arizona, California, and Nevada and (2) address invasive species such as the quagga mussel in the Lower Colorado River Basin.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

John McCain

Harry Reid

John Ensign

Jon Kyl

Dianne Feinstein