



The Western Coalition of Arid States

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June 20, 2017

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, Chair
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington D. C. 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Cantwell:

The Western Coalition of Arid States [WESTCAS] wishes to offer its strong support for Brenda Burman to serve as the next Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation. WESTCAS is an organization of water and wastewater service providers who advocate for water in the Arid West. We are active with regard to both legislative and regulatory issues that impact our members.

The Bureau of Reclamation with its 475 dams and 337 reservoirs, which provide 30 million acre feet of water for more than 31 million people, is a key agency regarding water and the Arid West. Ms. Burman's experience working with western water agencies and the Executive and Legislative branches of the federal government has been an excellent preparation for her to assume the duties of Commissioner. We are pleased that Ms. Burman's work history includes experience with both the Metropolitan Water Agency of Southern California and most recently the Salt River Project in Arizona in the capacity of Director of Water Policy. Both of these agencies are active members of WESTCAS.

The Voice of Water Quality in the Arid West

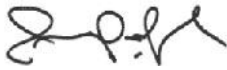
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W E S T C A S

We are delighted that Ms. Burman's nomination provides her with the opportunity to bring her experience and knowledge to the Bureau of Reclamation as its latest Commissioner. Thank you for the Committee hearing which you held today on the nomination. We respectfully urge you and your colleagues move forward as quickly as possible to confirm Ms. Burman as Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation.

Sincerely,



Steve Bigley
President

cc: The Honorable Jeff Flake
The Honorable Cory Gardner
The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto
The Honorable Martin Heinrich

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