“Emerging Policy Challenges”

Delia M. Carlyle, Chairman
Ak-Chin Indian Community
June 5, 2007
Ak-Chin Overview

- Ak-Chin Indian Community is one of 22 Tribal Communities within the State of Arizona;
- Comprised of 21,840 acres, of which 14,000 is dedicated for agricultural purposes;
- Derives its name from Vekol Wash;
- Governed by a 5 member Council;
- Approximately 900 Community Members; and
- 30 miles south of Phoenix, and located within Pinal County.
Encroachment

- Vast residential growth surrounding the Ak-Chin Reservation;
- Currently 21 residential subdivisions being constructed;
- Projected population within the next 5 years is 130,000; and
- Potential commercial and industrial development.
Encroachment Challenge

- In January 2006, a utility proposed to discharge treated effluent into 2 washes and an irrigation canal;
- Community opposed the discharge not the construction of the reclamation facility;
- Community requested the “coming to the table” concept, which the utility agreed to;
Encroachment Challenge contd.

- Attended numerous public hearings with Pinal County, ADEQ and CAAG;
- Received notification by ADEQ of proposed Surface Water Quality Standards amendment to include “no upstream discharges to all washes that flow through the Ak-Chin Reservation”; and
- On May 23, 2006, the Community and the utility signed a Letter of Understanding.
Cottonwood
Cattails
Terrestrial Species
mova sape

“thank you”