



Arizona Legislature Does a Drive By!



Sandy Bahr and Representative Andrés Cano.

June 16, 2023

Hi all!

The Arizona Legislature was back in session for a brief time in what I will call a drive by session. They came in for long enough to dash any hopes of an affordable housing compromise or an agreement on Maricopa County transportation, and took a shot at expelling and then censuring Representative Stephanie Stahl-Hamilton -- ultimately redefining what constitutes a majority of the body. They passed a bill to hinder solar and wind development, plus referred a measure to the ballot that, if adopted, will make it nearly impossible to put a ballot measure on the ballot. They did not fix anything and, as far as I can tell, did not help

anyone either.

We were sad to see Representative Andrés Cano step down as minority leader in the House, but happy for him as he pursues his dreams. He has been a strong and consistent advocate for environmental justice, clean air, clean water, and an accessible democracy. He will be resigning his seat in July. We thank him, wish him well, and look forward to seeing what amazing things he does next.

The GOP referred to the ballot [SCR1015 initiative; referendum; signatures; legislative districts](#) (Mesnard: Bennett, Kaiser, et al.). This measure requires a proportionate number of signatures from each legislative district to even put an initiative on the ballot, allowing one legislative district to block a statewide measure and making it even more expensive to put something on the ballot. Be sure to vote no on this in 2024!

This will go down as the longest legislative session in history as they refuse to *sine die*. Senator Hoffman wants to limit the Governor's ability to make interim appointments and he has still refused to advance most of the Governor's appointments. Sadly, Martín Quezada's appointment as Registrar of Contractors was withdrawn after the Committee on Director Nominations did not recommend him. This, despite the fact that he was doing a great job there.

Maricopa County is the only county in Arizona that needs legislative approval and the governor's signature to call an election for a transportation sales tax. Unfortunately, the legislature has refused to approve a clean version of a bill and instead has been trying to limit the dollars that can go toward transit. The bill the Legislature sent the Governor, separating out the transit and roads will be vetoed, so this issue will be back.

See below for a few activities coming up outside the Arizona Legislature. Watch for our Environmental Report Card on the Legislature and Governor in mid-July.

To review bills we are tracking, [go to this link](#).

For more information, reach out to Sandy Bahr at sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org.

Thank you for all of your support this legislative session!

All the best,



Sandy Bahr
Chapter Director
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter

Coming Up Next Week

Join the

SRP IS FULL OF GAS TOUR!



June 17th • 9:30am - 3:30pm

An educational tour addressing concerns about air pollution, climate change, and water use, regarding some of Salt River Project's gas plants and proposed gas plant expansions

Saturday, June 17th

SRP is Full of Gas Tour - 9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. - Join us to go to three of SRP's gas plants to call attention to the pollution, water use, and climate harm they do. We will gather outside of each and record comments, tell our stories, and share why SRP should invest in clean renewable energy instead of adding more gas. You can meet us at one or join us for the tour of all three. Find the event on [Facebook here](#) or go directly to the [RSVP form](#).

Help Stop the Dangerous Gas Plant Near You

Come learn more about the Agua Fria Power Plant in Glendale from 4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. at Glendale High School. You can [RSVP here](#).

Monday, June 19th

Juneteenth - This day celebrates the day in 1865, more than two years after President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, during which Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas with news that the Civil War had ended and that the last enslaved Black Americans in Texas were emancipated.

And sign on to support the strongest possible carbon rule for power plants by using the button below.

Take Action to Reduce Carbon Emissions!

**HELP
STOP**

**THE DANGEROUS
GAS POWER PLANT
NEAR YOU!**

**GLENDALE HIGH SCHOOL
6216 W. GLENDALE AVE.
GLENDALE, AZ 85301**

**6/17/23
4 P.M. - 6 P.M.**

REGISTER NOW

StopSRPGasPlants.com

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VOTE • ORGANIZE • CHANGE

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Resource
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