Notice to Customers:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is aware of a notice sent from Jennifer Hodges and the Havasu Water Company (HWC) to customers dated Jan 28, 2026, regarding a recent court decision in a lawsuit between the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe and the HWC. EPA is not a party to the lawsuit between the Tribe and HWC. **Please refer to the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe's notice and the California Public Utilities Commission for questions related to the recent court decision.**

EPA's Actions to Date:

Due to HWC's location within the boundaries of the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation, EPA has jurisdiction to oversee the system's water quality under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Since oversight of the HWC water system was transferred to EPA from the California State Water Resources Control Board on January 1, 2024, EPA has conducted a sanitary survey and two in-person inspections and identified a total of seventeen significant deficiencies that required correction. Thirteen of the seventeen have been corrected as of **February 13, 2026**. EPA's enforcement division has also released two enforcement orders, a Unilateral Administrative Order on May 28, 2024, and an Emergency Order on November 6, 2024.

The following improvements are a result of these actions:

- Creation of standard operating procedures for the calibration and verification of system instruments, chlorination practices, operational practices, and maintenance of tank levels.
- The acquisition of a backup generator that can maintain system pressure during power outages.
- Repairs and backup systems to ensure pump redundancy in case a main pump breaks down to avoid water outages.
- Infrastructure improvements, including the installation of mesh screens and equipment repairs, to limit potential routes of contamination.
- Increased oversight and reporting of certified operator activities for distribution system maintenance and treatment plant operations
- Requirement to distribute bottled water to customers during boil water notices or precautionary boil water notices. The water system complied with this requirement during the last two boil water events on December 9, 2025, and January 6, 2026.

EPA's oversight of the HWC water system under the SDWA includes direct regulatory oversight of the water system and enforcement of violations of the SDWA. The SDWA regulates water quality for public health and safety, along with proper management and treatment of drinking

water for human consumption. **The EPA does not regulate or determine the source of water used by regulated water systems.**

For questions regarding the EPA's oversight of HWC please contact Annie Wan at wan.annie@epa.gov or (415) 972-3845.

For questions regarding CPUC's oversight of HWC please contact Sham Jagur at sham.jagur@cpuc.ca.gov or (628) 600-8189