

# McMullen Valley Water Conservation and Drainage District

## La Paz County

### April 5, 2013 Workshop Presentation to the Arizona Power Authority

- **Overview:** Because of the Hoover Power received in 1987, coupled with cost effective management and supplemental supplies, the District's irrigated acreage and electric loads have grown materially since 1987. The increased acreage – indeed all of MVWCDD's acreage – is irrigated with pumped groundwater. Prior to 1987, the farmers in the McMullen Valley were going broke and farmland was going fallow due to unaffordable power costs. Most of the District's then-served acreage was sold to the City of Phoenix for a "water farm" in 1986. Some tenant farming on much-reduced acreage continued after 1987 using the Hoover power. MVWCDD has since expanded to include over 10,000 acres of additional farmland not owned by Phoenix. In 2012, Phoenix sold its holdings, and the new owners have expanded the farming operations and installed drip irrigation on substantial acreage of the previously fallowed land. The combined expansion and resurgence in irrigated acreage has had a materially positive impact on the local farm economy and secondary support economies.

- **MVWCDD's only Federal Power is Hoover.**

	<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Energy</u>
Red Book allocation of Hoover A and B:	<b>8,740 kw</b>	<b>18,215 mwh</b>

- **MVWCDD's Loads:**

	<u>Peak Demand</u>	<u>Annual Energy</u>
1987 Load:	<b>9,341 kw</b>	<b>19,634 mwh</b>
Current* Load:	<b>14,896 kw</b>	<b>69,890 mwh</b>

\*MVWCDD's load will increase substantially in 2013 and 2014 due to new drip-irrigated acreage coming back into production, and further upon completion of current APS line extension construction and connection of multiple wells in the Butler Valley Unit of the District.

- **MVWCDD does not receive CAP water.** MVWCDD's member lands are all irrigated with groundwater.
- **MVWCDD serves only agricultural-related loads, primarily irrigation groundwater pumps.**
  - Irrigation wells and pumps, including re-use sumps and drip system boosters
  - dairies
  - cotton gins
  - feed mills
  - produce coolers
- The farms served by MVWCDD are essentially the only economic base of the Wenden, Salome, and Vicksburg areas. These remote areas in La Paz County are not expected to encounter urbanization opportunities and pressures seen in the central Maricopa County area districts.

