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## **ADEQ Enters Into Consent Order with Camp Verde Sanitary District for Wastewater Treatment Problems**

PHOENIX (Feb. 7, 2008) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Director Steve Owens announced today that ADEQ and the Camp Verde Sanitary District have entered into a consent order to address issues with the Yavapai County town's wastewater treatment system.

The sanitary district began construction on its collection system last Dec. 20 without obtaining an Aquifer Protection Permit. ADEQ issued a compliance order on Dec. 31 requiring all construction to stop until the district received authorization from the agency. The district filed an application for construction authorization on Jan. 2, 2008.

In reviewing the sanitary district's application, ADEQ found deficiencies in engineering design including the proposed use of a 16-inch force main line beneath the Verde River, which does not meet minimum velocity requirements. The use of such a line could lead to wastewater overflows and unacceptable levels of sewage odors.

"This consent order will stabilize the Camp Verde Sanitary District's wastewater treatment planning and help the District come into – and stay in – compliance with the law," Director Owens said. "We are working closely with the District to fix the sewer lines and ensure that the wastewater treatment system is built correctly. We recognize the challenges the District faces in trying to put a large commercial area on the sewer, and we intend to help the board members work through those issues."

The consent order requires the sanitary district to file an application within 120 days that will address construction of an upgrade to the sewer district's lift pumps at its Main Street Pump Station to ensure the minimum velocity requirements in all of its 16-inch force main lines. The compliance schedule also requires the sanitary district to install all necessary pumps within 180 days and to submit an application for discharge authorization with ADEQ.

Additionally, the consent order requires that the sanitary district file a plan of operation for the 16-inch force main beneath the Verde within 30 days, including flushing the main weekly.

If the sanitary district violates the consent order, it could be fined up to \$4,000 a day for each violation.