

Tucson Water's Avra Valley water project is the largest and most critical construction project the utility has undertaken in recent years. Building this project includes installing 11-1/2 miles of large diameter pipe, constructing pumping stations and a new reservoir, drilling and equipping a number of new wells, and building a system of pipelines to collect the water from them. Because of the importance of this project to all Tucson Water customers and employees, we will be producing this newsletter throughout the construction process to keep you informed about our progress.



Administrator Steve Pageau, Inspector Ray Lopez, and Project Manager Mike Sanders review plans for Tucson Water's new pipeline.

Pipeline Construction Begins

Construction has begun on the 11-1/2 mile pipeline that will bring Tucson's newest supply of drinking water to our community. According to Mike Sanders, Tucson Water Project Manager, the contractor – Ames Construction – started work at the point where the pipeline crosses the Central Arizona Project canal and is working southeast.

Ames is working on Phase One of the pipeline project that will extend to the pumping plant north of Tucson Estates Parkway and Ajo Road. This portion of the pipeline is expected to be complete in December of this year.

The 60" and 72" diameter welded steel pipe is manufactured by Ameron International.

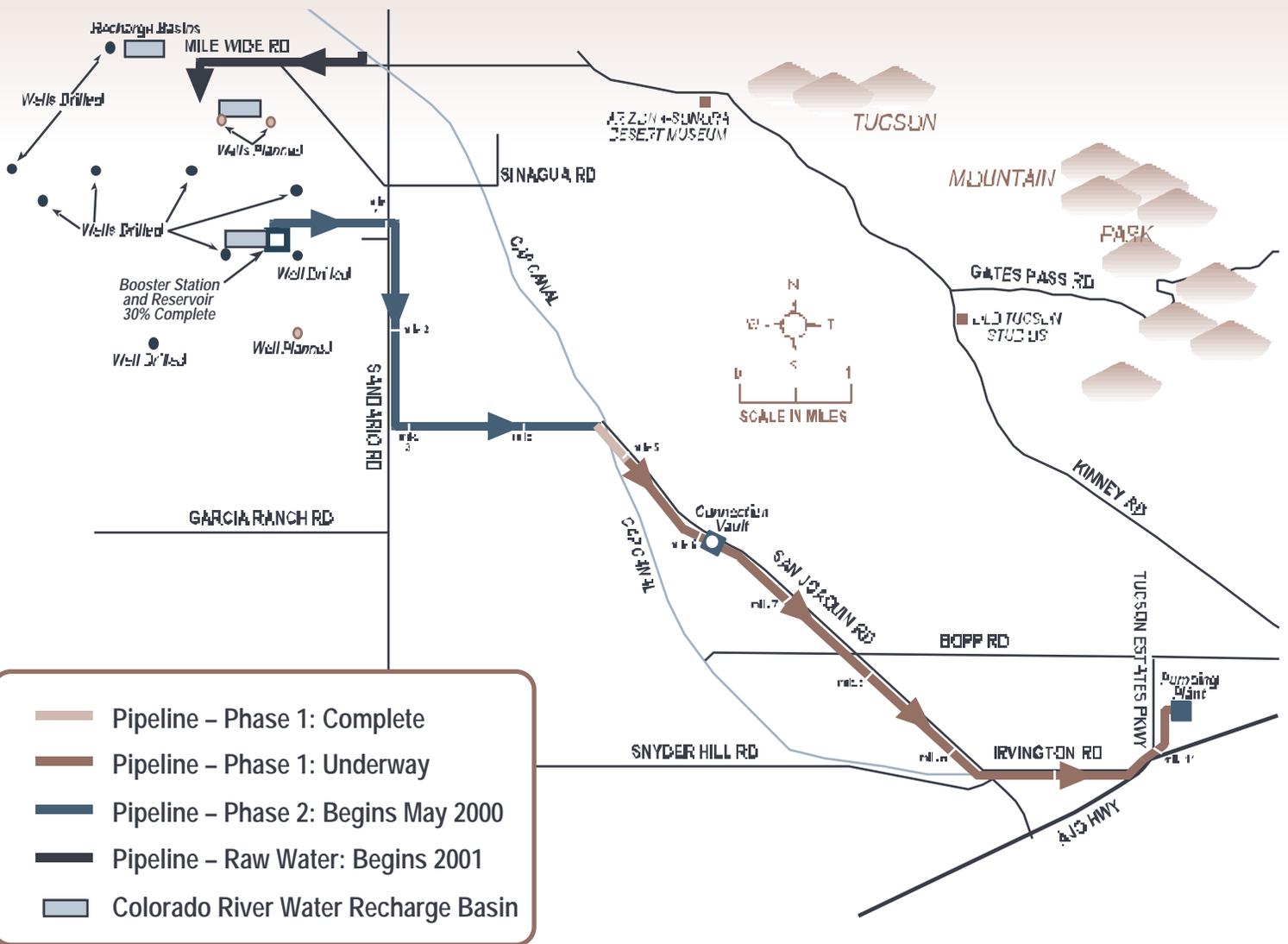
Sanders reports that Phase Two of the pipeline installation, contracted with Borderland Construction, will begin around May 1 and will also be complete by December. This portion of the pipeline will connect Tucson Water's booster station west of Sandario Road to the north end of the Phase One pipe.

What's CAVSARP?

Bringing much needed drinking water to Tucson from Avra Valley is what the Central Avra Valley Storage and Recovery Project (CAVSARP) is all about. Colorado River water is piped into large basins and allowed to soak into the ground until it reaches the water table. There it blends naturally with the existing groundwater. Wells then recover this water and collector pipes carry it to the reservoir. Beginning in 2001, CAVSARP will provide billions of gallons of much needed quality drinking water to Tucson Water customers.

New Wells Nearing 75% Completion

Twelve new wells are being constructed in the CAVSARP project area to recover our blended water. Nine wells have been completed, and three more are planned in the immediate future. Each well is 1000 feet deep and takes from three weeks to one month to complete. "Drilling a water well is a 24-hour a day operation," says Tucson Water project manager, Joe Huerstel, "because the hole may collapse if drilling stops before the well casing is installed." Huerstel says the current \$1.2 million well drilling contract should be complete by the end of July. More wells will be required in the future. A total of 25 are planned.



New Reservoir Will Hold 10 Million Gallons

How Can I Get More Information About CAVSARP?

- *If you have questions about the CAVSARP construction project in Avra Valley, please call the CAVSARP Project Hotline – 885-8010.*
- *If you have questions about our new water source or water quality, or if you would like your name added to the mailing list for this newsletter, please call Tucson Water's Public Information Office at 791-4331.*
- *In the desert, every drop counts! For water conservation information, call Tucson Water's Water Conservation Office at 791-4556.*



Tucson Water project inspector Randy Buffalo points out progress on the new reservoir to Steve Pageau, Planning and Engineering Administrator.

Water pumped from the CAVSARP wellfield will be moved through the new pipeline to Tucson. In order to do that efficiently, Tucson Water is constructing a 10 million gallon reservoir and a booster station just east of one of the recharge basins. The booster station will contain the equipment that will pump up to 54 million gallons of water per day through the pipeline.

The reservoir and booster station facilities are being built by Borderland Construction and are about 30% complete as of our publication date.



"The Future is Crystal Clear"

Water for a Desert City is produced by Tucson Water to keep our customers informed about this important water resource project.

Para recibir esta información en español, llame por favor, 791-4331.