



**Sine Die!**  
**The 2023 Legislative Session is Finally over.**



August 5, 2023

Hi all!

The longest and ugliest legislative session has come to a close after 204 days. It was a session filled with bad legislation that went to the Governor's desk and was vetoed, setting a veto record, and good bills that failed to get a hearing. Despite Arizona being in the bull's eye of climate change and our ongoing water woes, Legislators did nothing on either of these and

instead made things worse by hindering vehicle electrification and setting the stage for funding a lot more roads. Sadly, leadership in the House and Senate set no standards for civility and many advocates were harangued as they advocated for democracy, environmental protection, and other issues in committee hearings.

In the waning hours of the session, the Senate confirmed a couple of appointments to the Game and Fish Commission. Unfortunately, both appointments came from former Governor Doug Ducey, so will be unlikely to move the Commission in a positive direction.

Legislators also passed a strike-everything amendment on [SB1102 NOW: transportation excise tax; Maricopa county](#) (Carroll: Livingston, Shamp). It allows Maricopa County to send a sales tax to the ballot for transportation. There are mixed reviews on the bill, but we could not support it as it continues to primarily fund roads to subsidize sprawl development, limits light rail funding -- the dollars cannot be used for any light rail extensions, derails the western light rail route to the Capitol, and the bill includes a provision to prohibit limiting vehicles based on the energy source they use. There is a reason that the developers, oil and gas proponents, and others in the "real estate industrial complex" were gathered at the Capitol with a big smile on their faces. Governor Hobbs signed the bill.

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We will have a short pause on these updates over the next couple of weeks while we finish up the Environmental Report Card and then we will issue that and share it via an update. We will try to keep you informed about interim committee meetings and other opportunities to engage too. There will likely be an energy and air quality meeting coming up some time this month.

Meanwhile, there is a lot going on just down the street from the Capitol at the Arizona Corporation Commission. See below for information on how to act on the APS rate case. Please consider speaking on that in person or via the phone on August 10th and also sign our petition.

**[If you are a Tucson Electric Power \(TEP\) ratepayer, you can send a comment on the proposed order here.](#)** The Arizona Corporation Commission will be considering this on Tuesday, August 8th. You can call in to comment by dialing 1-877-309-3457 Passcode: 801972877## or show up at the Commission at [1200 W. Washington Street](#) in Phoenix. The meeting starts at 9:00 AM, but they will likely not get to TEP until at least 10:00 AM.

**For more information, reach out to Sandy Bahr at [sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org](mailto:sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org).**

Many many thanks!

All the best,



Sandy Bahr  
Chapter Director  
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter

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**Tell The ACC No Rate Increase for Dirty Coal and Gas!**



**JOIN US AT THE ACC  
AUGUST 10TH TO TELL THEM  
NO RATE INCREASE FOR  
DIRTY COAL AND GAS!**



**[bit.ly/RateCaseAPS](https://bit.ly/RateCaseAPS)**

On Thursday, August 10th, at 10:00 AM, there will be one last opportunity to comment on the proposed rate increase for Arizona Public Service (APS) before the case goes to hearing.

[Please come to the Arizona Corporation Commission](#) (ACC), located at 1200 W. Washington, Phoenix, at 10:00 AM or call in to provide your comments. If you sign up to comment, we will provide you with talking points and additional details. Tell the ACC, no more rate increases for dirty coal and gas!

**We're also trying to get at least 500 written comments submitted and are very close. Please help with that by [signing our petition](#).**

Thank you!

Sign the Petition on the APS Rate Case!

