



## Cultural Resources & Historic Preservation Office

Pima County Administration  
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February 18, 2010

The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords  
US House of Representatives  
1728 Longworth House Building  
Washington, DC 20515

### Re. Steam Pump Ranch Historic Site Rehabilitation and Restoration

Dear Congresswoman Giffords:

I would like to enthusiastically recommend the Steam Pump Ranch Pump House Project to you for funding for the protection and restoration of this pioneer ranch complex in Oro Valley.

In 2004, Pima County voters approved bond funds for the acquisition and rehabilitation of the Steam Pump Ranch headquarters established by George Pusch and John Zellweger in 1874. Located on the historic Camp Grant Road, today Oracle Road, Steam Pump Ranch was a stop over and place of refuge for travelers in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. This is an exceptionally important historic property located along an historic route of travel that shaped the history of this region, and it is the "foundation site" of Oro Valley. This complex is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and is a heritage destination within the proposed Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area.

Pima County continues to work in partnership with the Town of Oro Valley to complete stabilization and repairs with remaining funding. Unfortunately, there are insufficient bond funds to rehabilitate the entire ranch complex.

I respectfully urge you to consider funding for the Steam Pump Ranch project, which will ensure the preservation of an iconic historic property and legacy of Oro Valley's frontier era. Steam Pump Ranch is a place truly significant in the history of Pima County and southern Arizona.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Mayro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Linda" being more prominent than the last name "Mayro".

Linda Mayro  
Cultural Resources Manager