

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION**

73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260  
Phone: (760) 346-7491

Public Notice No. 7-19-03  
March 29, 2019  
NPDES No. CA7000009

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR  
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT AND  
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (WDRs)  
PROPOSED ORDER R7-2019-0004**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board) is releasing for public review and comment proposed Order R7 2019-0004, which will serve as an NPDES permit and WDRs for the Calexico Water Pollution Control Plan. The following discharger has applied for reissuance of the current discharge permit Order R7-2014-0004 under section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act NPDES permit program (33 U.S.C. § 1342):

CITY OF CALEXICO,  
CALEXICO WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT  
298 WEST 2ND STREET  
CALEXICO, CA 92231

Colorado River Basin Water Board staff has prepared proposed Order R7-2019-0004 (Proposed Order) for the above discharger containing effluent and receiving water limitations and special provisions in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.) and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Water Code, § 13000 et seq.). The public hearing to consider adoption of the Proposed Order will be on:

Date: May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Time: ~~10:00~~ 10:30 a.m.  
Location: Blythe Council Chambers  
235 N. Broadway  
Blythe, CA 92225

Please bring the foregoing to the attention of anyone you believe may be interested in this matter.

**BACKGROUND**

The City of Calexico (Discharger) owns and operates the Calexico Water Pollution Control Plant (Facility). The current total design capacity of the wastewater treatment plant is 4.3 million gallons per day (MGD). The Facility provides secondary treatment through two treatment trains: an activated sludge treatment system with a design capacity of 2.5 MGD, referred to as Plant #1 and an aerated lagoon treatment system with a design capacity of 1.8 MGD, referred to as Plant #2. Wastewater received at the headworks is screened at influent pump stations #1 and #2 and pumped to two circular clarifiers, which are operated in parallel.

Plant #1 was originally constructed in 1967 and upgraded in 1974, 1991, and 1995. Plant #1 provides extended aeration activated sludge biological treatment through three concrete-lined

aeration basins fitted with surface aerators operated in parallel. Three circular secondary clarifiers remove solids after aeration. Return sludge from the clarifiers is directed to influent pump station #1 and combines with raw wastewater to maintain sufficient levels of biomass in the treatment system.

Plant #2 was constructed in 1991 and upgraded in 1994. Plant #2 consists of a set of four lagoons operated in series. Each treatment lagoon has an approximate volume of 3 million gallons and is equipped with high-speed floating aerators.

Secondary effluent from both treatment systems is combined for disinfection by an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system prior to discharge to the New River.

Sludge generated from the primary clarifiers is pumped to two anaerobic digesters for stabilization, normally operated in series. Secondary sludge generated from the two of the three secondary clarifiers from Plant #1 is also pumped to the anaerobic digesters for stabilization. Secondary sludge from Plant #2 is thickened by dissolved air flotation prior to being pumped to the digesters. Stabilized primary and secondary sludge is discharged from the two anaerobic digesters to fourteen sludge drying beds. Digested sludge is dried in the sludge drying beds prior to removal and eventual land application in Yuma, Arizona.

The Calexico Water Pollution Control Plant services a population of approximately 40,300. The Facility is located in Calexico, California. Wastewater is discharged from Discharge Point 001 to New River, a water of the United States.

The Discharger is currently regulated by an NPDES permit and WDRs (NPDES Permit No. CA7000009, Order R7-2014-0004), which was adopted on May 8, 2014 and expires on May 31, 2019. The Discharger filed a report of waste discharge and submitted an application for reissuance of its WDRs and NPDES permit on December 3, 2018.

#### **DOCUMENT**

#### **AVAILABILITY**

The full text of the current NPDES permit, Order R7-2014-0004, and the tentative revised NPDES permit are available on the Colorado River Basin Water Board's website at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board\\_decisions/tentative\\_orders/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml)

If you need a hard copy of these orders mailed to you, please contact Mary Castaneda by phone at (760) 776-8945 or e-mail at [mary.castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mary.castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov).

#### **SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS**

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will accept written comments during a thirty (30) day public comment period, which begins March 29, 2019 and ends April 29, 2019. Written comments on the proposed Board Order must be received no later than **5:00 p.m., April 29, 2019**.

Comments should be mailed to the attention of Kai Dunn at the address shown below or emailed to [Kai.Dunn@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Kai.Dunn@waterboards.ca.gov).

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The Colorado River Basin Water Board will prepare written responses to significant comments that are timely received. If written comments to the Colorado River Basin Water Board are not timely submitted, late comments will not be accepted if doing so would prejudice any party in accordance with section 648.4, title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.

### **HEARING PROCEDURE**

Affected stakeholders and other interested persons are invited to attend and express their views on this matter at the public hearing, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. In addition, to ensure accuracy of the record, the Colorado River Basin Water Board requests that any speakers who have prepared written statements for oral presentation at the hearing submit those statements to Board staff before or during the hearing.

Those who wish to speak at the hearing will be asked to fill out a speaker request card and provide it to Colorado River Basin Water Board staff. Comments from the public will be limited to three (3) minutes per person. Any person planning to make a presentation to the Board that requires the use of visual aids (such as overheads, slides, or video projector) should contact the assigned staff person to make arrangements before the meeting date in order to avoid unnecessary delays during the meeting. Where speakers can be grouped by affiliation or interest, such groups will be expected to select a spokesperson and not be repetitive.

More information about the Colorado River Basin Water Board's Meeting Procedures is available at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board\\_info/agenda/docs/bm\\_procedures.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_info/agenda/docs/bm_procedures.pdf)

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Contact Jose Valle de Leon, Water Resources Control Engineer, at (760) 776-8940 or email at [jose.valledeleon@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jose.valledeleon@waterboards.ca.gov) for any questions regarding the Proposed Order.

### **ACCESSIBILITY**

If you are disabled and require special accommodations to participate in this public hearing, please contact Hilda Vasquez at (760) 776-8950 or e-mail at [hvasquez@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:hvasquez@waterboards.ca.gov) no later than ten (10) days before the scheduled public hearing. If you need interpreter services please contact Mary Castaneda at (760) 776-8945 or via email [Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov) at least 10 working days prior to the meeting.

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