

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

73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, California 92260  
Phone: (760) 346-7491  
Fax: (760) 341-6820

Public Notice 7-25-02  
Issued on January 17, 2025

Staff Contact:  
Logan Raub

Comment Deadline:  
February 17, 2025

[Logan.Raub@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Logan.Raub@waterboards.ca.gov)  
(760) 776-8966

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO TIME SCHEDULE  
ORDER R7-2020-0019  
ISSUED TO IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
EL CENTRO GENERATING STATION  
EL CENTRO, IMPERIAL COUNTY

The Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin (Colorado River Basin Water Board) is releasing for public review and comment amended Time Schedule Order (TSO) R7-2020-0019-02, which concerns the following:

Discharger: Imperial Irrigation District  
Facility: El Centro Generating Station  
Imperial County  
Order(s): R7-2020-0006 (NPDES No. CA0104248)  
R7-2020-0019, R7-2020-0019-1

**HEARING PARTICIPATION**

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of TSO R7-2020-0019-02 at the date, time and location specified below:

Date: March 4, 2025  
Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Location: City of Imperial  
Council Chambers  
220 West 9th Street  
Imperial, CA 92251

***Remote Participation Option Available***  
(See Instructions Below)

TIME SCHEDULE ORDER R7-2020-0019-2  
IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
EL CENTRO GENERATING STATION  
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**Remote Participation Option**

Although this public meeting will be conducted in-person, the public will also have the opportunity to participate remotely via the [ZOOM videoconferencing platform](https://zoom.us) (<https://zoom.us>), which is free to download. If you intend to speak, present oral comments or otherwise actively participate in this meeting, you will need to obtain ZOOM access prior to the meeting. For those who do NOT intend to actively participate, the meeting will be livestreamed via [Cal-Span](http://www.cal-span.org) ([www.cal-span.org](http://www.cal-span.org)).

Please refer to the Colorado River Basin Water Board's [Remote Meetings page](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_info/remote_meeting) ([www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board\\_info/remote\\_meeting](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_info/remote_meeting)) for instructions on remote participation via ZOOM.

**Oral Comments at Hearing**

All persons interested in TSO R7-2020-0019-02 and/or this proceeding will be provided the opportunity to orally present general policy statements and legal arguments during the hearing, provided that they have submitted Speaker Request Cards (or the equivalent for virtual participation). Such comments will be limited to three minutes, though the Board Chair may grant additional time on a case-by-case basis.

To ensure accuracy of the record the Colorado River Basin Water Board requests that interested persons wishing to speak at the hearing provide a summary of their oral comments in writing before or during the hearing. However, interested persons do not need to submit written statements in order to speak.

If your comments will incorporate a short slideshow presentation or visual aids, please email these materials to [Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov) no later than noon on the day before the meeting. These materials will not be admitted as evidence in the administrative record.

**SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS**

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will accept comments on TSO R7-2020-0019-02 during a 30-day public comment period ending on February XX, 2025. All written comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. Comments received prior to this deadline will be included in the administrative record. Untimely written comments will not be accepted, absent a showing of good cause and lack of prejudice to the parties.

**BACKGROUND**

The Discharger owns and operates the Facility, located at 485 East Villa Road, El Centro, CA 92243, in Imperial County. The Facility is a steam electric generating facility that provides electricity to the Imperial Valley. The Facility consists of three steam turbine generators and three gas turbine generators, with a total of four generating units. All units are cooled using water circulated through unit-specific cooling towers. Colorado River water via the Dogwood Canal is used to provide water for cooling and other facility operations. The Facility discharges a maximum of 0.995 million gallons per day of

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industrial cooling water to Central Drain No. 5, which flows to the Alamo River, a water of the United States.

On January 16, 2020, the Colorado River Basin Water Board adopted Order R7-2020-0006 to regulate discharges of industrial wastewater from the Facility. Order R7-2020-0006 included effluent limitations for copper, lead, selenium, thallium, and zinc.

In March 2020, the Discharger reported that they were unable to consistently comply with the effluent limitations for copper, lead, selenium, thallium, and zinc established in Order R7-2020-0006 and requested a Time Schedule Order from the Colorado River Basin Water Board to allow sufficient time to bring the Facility into compliance with the effluent limitations.

On July 9, 2020, the Colorado River Basin Water Board adopted Time Schedule Order R7-2020-0019, which established a time schedule of no more than five years for bringing the waste discharge into compliance with the final effluent limitations for copper, lead, selenium, thallium, and zinc in Order R7-2020-0006.

TSO R7-2020-0019 was amended in August 2023 (TSO R7-2020-0019-01) to provide additional time to complete interim milestones and bring the waste discharge into compliance with the effluent limitations in Order R7-2020-0006 by April 1, 2025.

On August 19, 2024, the Discharger reported that they would not be able to meet the effluent limitations in Order R7-2020-0006 by April 1, 2025, and requested additional time. The Discharger stated they encountered unanticipated difficulty finding a primary construction contractor to complete their project.

The proposed amendment (TSO R7-2020-0019-02) will extend the deadlines for coming into compliance with the effluent limitations in Order R7-2020-0006.

**SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS**

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will accept comments during a thirty (30) day public comment period, which ends on **February 17, 2025**. Written comments on the TSO R7-2020-0019-02 must be received no later than **5:00 p.m., on February 17, 2025**. Comments received by this deadline will be included in the administrative record. If written comments to the Colorado River Basin Water Board are not timely submitted, however, the Board Chair may refuse to accept such evidence or admit it into the administrative record unless the commenter can demonstrate why he or she was unable to timely submit the evidence, that compliance with the deadline would create an unreasonable hardship, or that allowing the evidence would not prejudice any party or the Colorado River Basin Water Board. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 648.4.) Written materials or other documents submitted at the Colorado River Basin Water Board hearing must be provided first to Board counsel, who will advise the Board regarding acceptance of these documents into the record.

Comments should be mailed to the attention of **Logan Raub** at the address shown below or emailed to [logan.raub@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:logan.raub@waterboards.ca.gov) or faxed to the office at (760) 341-6820.

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California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Colorado River Basin  
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**DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**

The TSO R7-2020-0019-02 has been posted to the Board's [Tentative Orders webpage](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml) (www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board\_decisions/tentative\_orders/index.shtml).

To receive a physical copy by mail, contact Mary Castaneda at (760) 776-8945 or at [Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov).

**ACCESSIBILITY AND LANGUAGE NEEDS**

Individuals who require special accommodations or interpreter services to participate in this public hearing, please contact **Mary Castaneda** no later than ten (10) days before the scheduled public hearing to notify us that you will be utilizing these services.

File: IID - El Centro Generating Station, R7-2020-0006

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