

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

Public Notice No. 7-09-01
NPDES Permit No. CA0104248
January 13, 2009

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY COMPLAINT NO. R7-2009-0016
ISSUED TO IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT, OWNER/OPERATOR
EL CENTRO GENERATING STATION
FOR DISCHARGES OF EFFLUENT
THAT EXCEED THE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS
IN VIOLATION OF BOARD ORDER NO. R7-2004-0086
NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0104248

The Imperial Irrigation District (Discharger) owns and operates the El Centro Generating Station, which is a gas and oil fired power plant in the City of El Centro. The power plant has a potential to discharge a maximum of 1.04 million gallons per day (MGD) of industrial cooling water to Central Drain No. 5, which flows to the Alamo River, which flows to the Salton Sea.

On July 1, 2004, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Regional Board) adopted Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R7-2004-0086 (NPDES Permit No. CA0104248), for Imperial Irrigation District, to regulate discharges of waste from the El Centro Generating Station plant.

The Assistant Executive Officer of the Regional Board has issued Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaint No. R7-2009-0016 against the Discharger, alleging that the Discharger discharged wastewater that exceeded effluent limitations for nickel set forth in Board Order No. R7-2004-0086. Pursuant to Section 13385 of the California Water Code (CWC), this Complaint proposes that the Discharger pay twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) in mandatory minimum penalties for violations of specified effluent limitations.

Unless the Discharger waives its right to a public hearing on the matter, as provided by CWC Section 13323(b), the Regional Board will proceed with the public hearing as follows:

Date of hearing: March 19, 2009
Time: 10:00 am
Location: City of Palm Desert
City Council Chambers
73-510 Fred Waring Drive
Palm Desert, CA 92260

During the hearing, the public and any other person interested in this matter can provide the Regional Board with comments on this matter.

If the Discharger waives its right to the hearing and pays the penalty in full, the Regional Board may still decide to conduct a Hearing on this matter. If the Discharger waives its right to the hearing and pays the penalty in full to settle this Complaint, the settlement will become final 30 days from the date of this Public Notice to allow interested persons the opportunity to comment on this action. Persons wishing to file written comments on or objections to, the proposed ACL or any other aspects of this matter are required to do so within 30 days of the date of this Notice so that the Regional Board may consider the comments.

Comments must be mailed to the following address:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

A copy of the Complaint may be obtained from the Regional Board Office. Please contact Doug Wylie at (760) 346-6585 for any questions regarding this matter.

For any person, who is disabled and requires special accommodations to participate in this Regional Meeting, please contact Hilda Vasquez at (760) 776-8950 no later than 10 days before the scheduled public hearing.