

**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. 7-12-30
August 8, 2012

REVISED Public Notice
of
Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration
For
Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Agricultural Wastewater
Discharges and Discharges of Wastes from Drain Operation and Maintenance Activities
within the Palo Verde Valley and Palo Verde Mesa

Public Comment Period:
August 8, 2012 to September 10, 2012

The public is invited to review and comment on an Initial Study and proposed Negative Declaration, prepared by the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board), pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (California Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) and CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000 et seq.), for a project consisting of a Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for agricultural wastewater discharges and discharges of wastes from drain operation and maintenance activities within the Palo Verde Valley and Palo Verde Mesa in Riverside and Imperial Counties.

To obtain coverage under this Conditional Waiver, dischargers must choose one of the two following options: (1) submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with this Conditional Waiver, or (2) participate in a Coalition Group that submits an NOI to comply with this Conditional Waiver. Under option 1, above, the discharger must also: (a) prepare a Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) and, if applicable, a Drain Water Quality Improvement Plan (DWQIP) for review and approval by the Regional Water Board, (b) conduct periodic water quality monitoring of the discharge and its receiving water(s), (c) prepare a Quality Assurance Project Plan for the proposed monitoring, and (d) submit annual monitoring reports to the Regional Water Board. Palo Verde Irrigation District (PVID) has agreed to organize and manage a coalition group and develop and implement a compliance program to comply with this Conditional Waiver. Dischargers shall pay annual fees for coverage under this Conditional Waiver as established under Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Division 3, Chapter 9 for waivers of WDRs for irrigated lands.

The proposed Negative Declaration is supported by the Initial Study, which evaluates whether this project may have a significant effect on the environment. The proposed Negative Declaration reflects the determination by the Regional Water Board that a Conditional Waiver of WDRs for discharges of the subject wastes in the Palo Verde Valley and Palo Verde Mesa will not have a significant effect on the environment. The Regional Water Board will consider adopting the proposed Negative Declaration during a **Public Hearing** that will commence at the time and place indicated below:

Date: September 20, 2012
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
Board Room
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

The public hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Hilda Vasquez at (760) 776-8950 at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929.

Written comments on the proposed Negative Declaration and Initial Study must be postmarked no later than September 10, 2012, for delivery to:

Liann Chavez, Senior Engineering Geologist
Colorado River Basin
Regional Water Quality Control Board
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

WHERE YOU CAN GET MORE INFORMATION:

The proposed Negative Declaration and Initial Study are available on the Regional Water Board's website under "**Resolution R7-2012-0046**" at:

[<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions.shtml/>](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions.shtml/)

CONTACT:

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the project, please contact Liann Chavez, Senior Engineering Geologist, (760) 776-8945, or Jose Angel, Assistant Executive Officer, at (760)776-8932.