

**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 7-14-48
October 2, 2014

REVISED PUBLIC NOTICE (October 24, 2014)

**Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration and Approval of
National Beef Brawley
Wastewater Pre-Treatment Facility Closure Project
Imperial County**

**Public Comment Period:
October 3 – November 3, 2014**

The public is invited to review and comment on an Initial Study and proposed Negative Declaration, prepared for the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board (Colorado River Basin Water Board) by Trinity Consultants, 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 the National Beef Brawley Wastewater Pre-Treatment Facility (WWPT) Closure Project (Project).

The Project is located at the National Beef processing facility at 57 East Shank Road in Brawley, Imperial County, California, and consists of closing the on-site WWPT in compliance with the Colorado River Basin Water Board's Cleanup and Abatement Order R7-2014-0033. The Project will take approximately four (4) years and will result in the clean closure of the WWPT. A revised resolution has been posted on the Regional Water Board's website that clarifies compliance with Order R7-2014-0033, section B. That section requires the submittal of technical reports addressing compliance with the Water Code and title 27 of the California Code of Regulations for Pond 1-3 and a site-closure plan for stormwater basins and other waste removal. The work plan and other supporting materials are available on the Colorado River Basin Water Board's website under "Resolution R7-2014-0058" at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions.shtml

Upon approval, the Discharger shall implement the Project. The negative declaration is intended to accompany and support the decision on Project approval.

Procedural objections have been raised in an unrelated enforcement matter involving the Discharger. Out of abundance of caution, an Advisory Team has been assigned to

assist the Regional Water Board in this matter. They are Senior Staff Counsel Samantha Olson, and Joan Stormo, Senior Engineering Geologist, Executive Officer Robert Perdue and Assistant Chief Counsel Lori Okun. All applicable rules and regulations, including the prohibition on ex parte communications with decision-makers and advisory staff shall be in place unless parties stipulate otherwise. Any objections to this procedure shall be due by November 3, 2014.

The proposed Negative Declaration is supported by the Initial Study, which evaluates whether the Project may have a significant effect on the environment. The proposed Negative Declaration reflects the determination by the Colorado River Basin Water Board that the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment. The Colorado River Basin Water Board will consider adopting the proposed Negative Declaration and approving the Project during a Public Hearing that will commence at the time and place indicated below:

Date: November 13, 2014
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: California 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 Ms. 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 November 3, 2014, for delivery to:

Doug Wylie, Senior Engineer
Colorado River Basin
Regional Water Quality Control Board
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Doug Wylie and Jose Angel (Clean Up Team) are directed to post all comments received on the Regional Water Board's website, and forward copies to the Advisory Team. In addition, the Clean Up Team shall prepare the agenda package and circulate to all the Parties and Advisory Team.

CONTACT:

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the project, please contact Doug Wylie, (760) 776-8960, or Jose Angel, Assistant Executive Officer, at (760) 776-8932.