

**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. 7-15-05
April 27, 2015
NPDES No. CA0105015

**REVISED NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT
AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS**

The following discharger has filed an application for reissuance of a discharge permit under Section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit program (33 U.S.C. § 1342), Board Order R7-2010-0019:

**CITY OF CALIPATRIA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
CALIPATRIA – IMPERIAL COUNTY**

The staff of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board), has prepared proposed Board Order R7-2015-0005 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 Division 7 of the California Water Code, commencing with Section 13000. Proposed Board Order R7-2015-0005 updates and replaces existing Board Order R7-2010-0018.

Date: June 11, 2015
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Town of Yucca Valley
Community Center – Yucca Room
57090 Twentynine Palms Highway
Yucca Valley, CA 92284

The Public Notice is being revised as a result of a number of non-significant administrative changes to the proposed Board Order that are now being considered for incorporation into the Board Order. These changes are shown in a redline/strikeout format in the proposed Board Order, which may be accessed at the link shown below. The changes pertain to findings that make clear that more additional data is necessary to demonstrate that the discharge does not demonstrate the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an excursion above the state water quality standard for the pollutant cyanide. Because the Discharger conducted an extensive study in 2008 and found no external sources of cyanide came into the plant and that no in-plant cyanide formation was observed in the plant, the proposed NPDES permit for this Plant does not

prescribe an effluent limitation for cyanide. However, some monitoring sampling results reported in the past few years indicated detectable levels of cyanide at times, which initially prompted the subject draft NPDES permit to include a cyanide effluent limitation. After further analysis of the data, Board staff now believes that inadequate and inappropriate testing procedures for cyanide analysis randomly caused false positive cyanide results to be reported. As a result, the suspected presence of this pollutant is now believed to be incorrect. To confirm whether the laboratory testing procedures caused false positive results to be reported, the Discharger will be required to undertake a special study for cyanide analysis to investigate laboratory issues. Therefore, the effluent limitation for cyanide has been removed from the proposed Board Order.

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will accept comments during a thirty (30) day public comment period, which begins April 29, 2015, and ends May 29, 2015. **Because sufficient time remains to comment on this proposed deletion of an effluent limitation for cyanide, an additional comment period is unnecessary.** Written comments on the proposed Board Order must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., May 29, 2015. 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 Anders Wistrom at the address shown below or faxed to the office at (760) 341-6820.

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

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. In order to have adequate time for the presentations by Board staff, however, comments from the public will be limited to three (3) minutes per person. If the presentation may take longer, please let Board staff know before speaking so that the presentation can be appropriately

scheduled at the hearing. 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.

A copy may also be obtained in person at the Colorado River Basin Water Board Office, or a copy can be mailed to you by contacting Hilda Vasquez at (760) 776-8950 to request a copy.

The application for reissuance of the discharge permit, the existing Board Order, the proposed Board Order, written comments received, and related documents may be inspected and copied at the Colorado River Basin Water Board office. Contact Anders Wistrom, Water Resources Control Engineer, at (760) 776-8964 for any questions regarding this matter.

Interested persons are advised that the full text of the current NPDES permit Board Order R7-2010-0018, and proposed Board Order R7-2015-0005 are available on the Colorado River Basin Water Board's website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_decisions/. Under the heading of "Board Orders", select years 2010 and 2015, then Orders R7-2010-0018, and R7-2015-0005, respectively. If you need a hard copy of these orders mailed to you, please contact Hilda Vasquez by phone at (760) 346-7491 or via e-mail at hvasquez@waterboards.ca.gov.

If you are disabled and require special accommodations to participate in this public hearing, please contact Hilda Vasquez at (760) 776-8950 no later than ten (10) days before the scheduled public hearing.

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