

Public Notice – 401 Certification Application

Date:

July 20, 2021

Applicant:

City of Calexico

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Duly Authorized Representative:

Panorama Environmental, Inc.

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Project Name:

New River Improvement Project - Calexico Reach, Located in Imperial County, California.

WDID No. 7A133166001, RM 444006, Place ID 875027

Receiving Water:

New River.

Location:

City or area: Calexico City, Imperial County, California

Latitude/Longitude: 32.670611 N, 115.512664 W

Section/Township/Range: Sections 14 and 15, Township 17S, Range 14E

Project Description:

The New River does not meet water quality standards and is on the State of California's Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list for 23 separate pollutants. The New River is a State of California priority for cleanup. Pollution within the New River, including trash and pathogen-indicator bacteria, poses a serious threat to public health, degrades ecosystems for wildlife, and contributes to water quality degradation as the New River flows to the Salton Sea. The New River's pathogen impairments in the Calexico area pose the greatest threat to public health. The purpose of the proposed Project is to address the public health threat that New River water quality poses within the City of Calexico by: (1) installing a trash rack to remove trash from the river, (2) diverting the polluted water around the populated City center to reduce the public health threat, and (3) replacing the New River flow within the City of Calexico with treated, disinfected wastewater from the City Wastewater Treatment Plant, which meets water quality standards for contact and non-contact recreation. The Project includes the following

components: a new Trash Screen across the New River at a point approximately 800 feet downstream from the US-Mexico Border; a Diversion Structure to divert the up to 160 cubic feet per second of New River flows immediately downstream from the Trash Screen; a new 72-inch bypass pipeline that would start at the Diversion Structure near 2nd Street in Calexico, go around downtown Calexico northwesterly for about 1.5 miles, and end at a point just upstream of where the All-American Canal goes over the New River; and a Pump-back system that would replace the diverted polluted water in the River channel with clean, treated wastewater from the Calexico's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The Project would result in a wetted 1.5-mile stretch of the New River that meets water quality standards for contact recreation from near the International Border to where the River channel crosses the All-American Canal. The Trash Screen will also ensure compliance with the Total Maximum Daily Load for Trash that the State has established for New River in Calexico.

Anticipated Project Start and End Dates:

November 2021 – April 2023

US Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit Number(s):

Los Angeles Individual Permit

Action:

Pending

Water Board Contact:

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