

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION**

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

Public Notice No.7-05-24

**NOTICE OF CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)  
SCOPING MEETING**

Proposed Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region (Basin Plan) to include a conditional prohibition for irrigation return flows in Palo Verde Valley, Riverside County.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board staff will hold a CEQA Scoping Meeting pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21083.9 to receive comments on the appropriate scope and content of the “functionally equivalent” environmental document to be prepared pursuant to CEQA Section 21080.5, in support of the proposed Basin Plan amendment.

The proposed Basin Plan amendment is necessary to ensure that the Regional Board addresses discharges of wastes (e.g. agricultural return flows) from agricultural operations in the Palo Verde Valley in a manner that is consistent with the California Water Code (CWC) Section 13269. Under provisions of CWC Section 13269, the Regional Board must either (1) adopt a prohibition of discharge, (2) waive waste discharge requirements, or (3) prescribe waste discharge requirements for the aforementioned discharges of wastes. Regional Board staff is proposing to draft a Basin Plan amendment to include a discharge prohibition for the Palo Verde Valley. The prohibition would specify certain conditions (e.g. quality of the waste discharged) under which discharges of agricultural wastes from the Palo Verde Valley would not be permitted.

Regional Board staff welcomes public comments on the scope and content of the CEQA document. The CEQA Scoping Meeting for the proposed Basin Plan amendment will be held:

**DATE:** September 13, 2005  
**TIME:** 10:00 AM-12:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** City of Blythe City Hall  
Multipurpose Room  
235 North Broadway  
Blythe, CA 92225

Any person who is disabled and requires special accommodations to participate in the Scoping Meeting, should contact Kristie Garcia at (760) 346-7491 no later than 10 days before the scheduled meeting. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of anyone you know who may be interested in the matter. If you have questions regarding this matter, please call Abdi Haile at (760) 776-8939.

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ABDI HAILE  
Senior Engineering Geologist

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Date