

**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. **7-13-36**
March 28, 2013

**REVISED NOTICE OF
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT SCOPING MEETING**

In the Matter of a Proposed Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Wastes
from Agricultural Operations in the Coachella Valley

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that this Notice supersedes Notice 7-13-35; and that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Regional Water Board) staff will hold a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Scoping Meeting, pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21083.9, to seek public input on the appropriate scope and content of the environmental documents to be prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.) regarding a proposed Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for Discharges of Wastes from Agricultural Operations in the Coachella Valley. The purpose of the environmental review will be to determine whether the proposed Waiver (the "project" under CEQA) could have a significant effect on the environment.

California Water Code Section 13269 provides the state and regional water boards (Water Boards) with the authority to waive WDRs for a specific discharge or type of discharge if the Board determines after any necessary Board meeting that the Waiver is consistent with any applicable state or regional water quality control plan and is in the public interest. The proposed Waiver would address the actual and potential impacts that agricultural wastewater discharges originating within the Coachella Valley have on water quality. Specifically, the Waiver would address: 1) storm water runoff from irrigated lands; and 2) irrigation return water, which includes surface discharges (also known as "tailwater") to the extent there are any in areas not tiled, and subsurface discharges (known as "tile water" or "seepage") in tiled areas. It will also address the potential water quality impacts from drain operation and maintenance activities.

The **CEQA Scoping Meeting** will be held as follows:

Date: **April 29, 2013**
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Location: Regional Water Board Office
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Hilda Vasquez at (760) 346-7491 at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1 (800) 735-2929 or voice line at 1 (800) 735-2922. If you have any questions about the proposed Waiver or meeting, please call Mr. Jose L. Angel at (760) 776-8932.

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

File: Waiver for Agricultural Discharges in Coachella Valley