

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

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

Public Notice No. 7-21-61
December 29, 2021
NPDES No. CA0104361

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TENTATIVE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
ORDER R7-2022-0005

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR CITY OF HOLTVILLE
MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
IMPERIAL COUNTY

Deadline for Written Comments

January 27, 2022

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board) is releasing for public review and comment Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements Order R7-2021-0005 (Proposed Order), which will serve as National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and prescribe Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the City of Holtville's (Discharger) Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility) in Imperial County.

The following party has applied for reissuance of the current NPDES permit, Order R7-2016-0005, under section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act NPDES permit program (33 U.S.C. § 1342):

**CITY OF HOLTVILLE
MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

1250 Kamm Road, Holtville
Imperial County

Staff of the Colorado River Basin Water Board has prepared the Proposed Order for the City of Holtville's (Discharger) Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility). The Proposed Order contains effluent and receiving water limitations and special provisions in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.) and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Wat. Code, § 13000 et seq.).

MEETING INFORMATION

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will consider adoption of the Proposed Order after a public hearing that will occur at the following date, time and location below.

Date: February 8, 2022
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: 73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100,
Palm Desert, California 92260
Remote Access: ZOOM Videoconferencing Platform

As of the date of this notice, the February 8 public meeting is scheduled to occur **in person** at the Colorado River Basin Water Board's office located at the address above. The Board will also provide an opportunity for optional remote participation via the ZOOM videoconferencing platform.

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it is possible that the format may change to a completely virtual meeting—i.e., exclusively conducted via Zoom. To receive notice about changes to the format of this meeting, sign up for the Lyris email list by [Subscribing to our Electronic Mailing List](#) (Select Board Meetings Agenda).

Interested persons are invited to attend the public meeting (in person or remotely), and in accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act (Gov. Code, § 11120), will be permitted to orally express their views on this matter. Please note that interested persons are not considered “designated parties” to the proceeding, and will be limited to general statements of policy (i.e., no evidentiary submissions). For information on requesting “designated party” status, please refer to the Colorado River Basin Water Board's [Meeting Procedures](#) at the address below.

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_info/agenda/docs/bm_procedures.pdf

Although the timely submittal of written comments during the public comment period (see below) will not be a prerequisite to speaking at the public meeting, to ensure accuracy of the record of proceedings, persons wishing to speak at the meeting are asked to email a written summary of their oral remarks to CJ.Jasieniecki@waterboards.ca.gov, either before or during the hearing (if possible).

Links for the meeting, a phone call option, and remote participation instructions are posted on the Colorado River Basin Water Board's website at: [Colorado River Basin Water Board Remote Participation Instructions](#).

In-person attendees are strongly encouraged to wear masks, and will be required to comply with applicable state and local health orders related to COVID-19.

HEARING PROCEDURE

The hearing will be conducted as a formal adjudicative proceeding in accordance with the Colorado River Basin Water Board's [Meeting Procedures](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_info/agenda/docs/bm_procedures.pdf) at the address below.

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_info/agenda/docs/bm_procedures.pdf

BACKGROUND

The Discharger owns and operates a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system (Facility) that provides sewerage service to residents of the City of Holtville, which has a population of approximately 6,600. The Facility has a treatment (design) capacity of 0.85 million gallons per day (MGD).

Raw sewage first enters the septage receiving station where it is mixed with air in the septage holding tanks. The raw sewage is then received at the headworks, where it is passed through a grit chamber to separate solid particles. Wastewater is then mixed with activated sludge in the mixed liquor structure, and it is subsequently directed to an aeration basin (170 x 124 ft.), where air is reintroduced into the sewage water. Wastewater discharged from the aeration basin is then passed through two secondary clarifiers (40 x 43 ft.) in parallel. Sludge collected from the secondary clarifiers is dewatered at a rotary drum thickener and then pumped to six sludge drying beds (3 shorter beds - 70 x 38 ft.; 3 longer beds - 90 x 40 ft.), which are equipped with sand filters and perforated underdrains. Leachate collected from the drying beds is pumped back to the headworks for reprocessing. After drying, the sludge is hauled away to a farm in Arizona for land application.

There is an option for the use of a secondary effluent pump station and continuous backwash up flow filter if deemed necessary by the operational staff. The wastewater from the secondary clarifiers flows through an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system

Effluent flows through a metering system before being discharged to the Pear Drain. The effluent flows approximately 180 yards prior to entering the Alamo River, a water of the United States.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

In accordance with Water Code section 13167.5, interested persons may submit written comments on the Proposed Order. The statutory 30-day written comment period commences on December 29, 2021, and ends on January 27, 2022.

To be considered, all written comments must be submitted to **Jose Valle de Leon**, via one of the following methods, no later than **5:00 p.m.** on **January 27, 2022**.

Mail: Colorado River Basin Water Board
Attention: Jose Valle de Leon
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100,
Palm Desert, California 92260

Email: Jose.ValledeLeon@Waterboards.ca.gov

Fax: (760) 341-6820
*please identify order number on cover sheet

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648.4, the Board Chair may refuse to admit written evidence or comments that are not submitted in accordance with this Notice and shall refuse to do so when there is a showing of prejudice to the Discharger or the Board. Excluded material will not be considered by the Board.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The Proposed Order is available for review via the [Tentative Orders](#) page on the Colorado River Basin Water Board website (at the address below):

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/
board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml)

If you need a hard copy of these orders mailed to you, please contact **Mary Castaneda** by phone at (760) 776-8945 or e-mail at mary.castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov, or **CJ Jasieniecki** at (760) 346-7494 or via e-mail at: CJ.Jasieniecki@waterboards.ca.gov.

The Facility's public file is also available for public review at the Colorado River Basin Water Board's office at 73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100, Palm Desert, California 92260. Please email or call ahead to schedule an appointment for file review.

ACCESSIBILITY

If you are disabled and require special accommodations to participate in this public hearing, please contact Hilda Vasquez at (760) 776-8950 or e-mail at hilda.vasquez@waterboards.ca.gov no later than ten (10) days before the scheduled public hearing. If you need interpreter services, please contact Mary Castaneda at (760) 776-8945 or via email Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov, or CJ Jasieniecki at (760) 346-7494 or via e-mail at: CJ.Jasieniecki@waterboards.ca.gov at least 10 working days prior to the meeting.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact **Jose Valle de Leon** at (760) 776-8940 or via email at Jose.ValledeLeon@Waterboards.ca.gov. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of anyone you believe may be interested in this matter.

File: WDID No. 7A13 0105011
 Holtville Municipal WWTP
 Order R7-2022-0005