CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

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Public Notice 7-25-37

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November 4, 2025

Workshop:

NOTICE OF 2ND PUBLIC WORKSHOP FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR COLORADO RIVER BASIN, ESTABLISHING TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR CHLORIDE AND INDICATOR BACTERIA IN ALAMO RIVER, IMPERIAL COUNTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board) will hold a second public workshop on a proposed amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region (Basin Plan), establishing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and an Implementation Plan for chloride and indicator bacteria in Alamo River, Imperial County.¹

The Board will <u>not</u> be deciding whether to adopt the proposed Basin Plan Amendment at the November 4 public meeting. The final hearing date for adoption has not yet been scheduled at this time.

Date/Time: November 4, 2025

9:00 am

Location: City of Imperial Council Chambers

420 South Imperial Avenue, Imperial, California 92251

Remote Participation Option Available

(See Instructions Below)

¹ The TMDL for toxicity has been removed from this Basin Plan Amendment. The proposed Basin Plan Amendment remains otherwise substantively unchanged.

REMOTE PARTICIPATION OPTION

Although these public meetings will be conducted in-person, the public will also have the opportunity to participate remotely via the <u>ZOOM videoconferencing platform</u> (https://zoom.us), which is free to download. If you intend to comment or otherwise actively participate in either meeting, you will need to obtain ZOOM access prior to each meeting. For those who do NOT intend to actively participate, the meetings will be livestreamed via <u>Cal-Span</u> (www.cal-span.org).

Please refer to the Colorado River Basin Water Board's <u>Remote Meetings</u> page (www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_info/remote_meeting) for instructions on remote participation via ZOOM.

ORAL COMMENTS

All persons interested in the Proposed Basin Plan Amendment will be provided the opportunity to orally comment during the workshop provided that they have submitted **Speaker Request Cards** (or the equivalent for virtual participation). Such comments will be limited to three minutes, though the Board Chair may grant additional time on a case-by-case basis. To ensure accuracy of the record the Colorado River Basin Water Board requests that interested persons wishing to speak provide a summary of their oral comments in writing before or during the hearing. However, interested persons do not need to submit written statements in order to speak. If your comments will incorporate a short slideshow presentation or visual aids, please email these materials to Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov no later than October 31, 2025 to be included and presented for the workshop.

Written comments on the proposed Basin Plan Amendment are no longer accepted at this time.

BACKGROUND

The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin (Basin Plan) is the guiding document that outlines the Colorado River Basin Water Board's plan for preserving and enhancing water quality in the region for the protection of beneficial uses for present and future generations. The Basin Plan contains the region's beneficial uses for groundwaters and surface waters, water quality objectives (WQOs) for protection of beneficial uses, and implementation programs to achieve WQOs.

This Project consists of a Basin Plan Amendment to establish TMDLs for the control of three impairments in the Alamo River: chloride, enterococcus and *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*). Chloride in the Alamo River is from irrigation water sourced from the Colorado

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River, deposited from agricultural runoff containing fertilizers, and naturally occurring in the soil. Indicator bacteria, *E. coli* and enterococcus, are from numerous sources from agriculture to wildlife.

Although the proposed Basin Plan Amendment originally included a TMDL for toxicity in the Alamo River, toxicity will be subsequently addressed via a separate Basin Plan Amendment. In all other respects, the proposed Basin Plan Amendment remains substantively unchanged.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq., and applicable State Water Board-promulgated regulations (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 6775 et seq.), the **Draft Staff Report** supporting the proposed Basin Plan Amendment constitutes the Substitute Environmental Document (SED). The Draft Staff Report contains, among other things, an analysis of potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed Basin Plan Amendment. Notably, Colorado River Basin Water Board staff have determined that the proposed Basin Plan Amendment will not result in any potential significant environmental impacts.

The Draft Staff Report has been posted to the Board's <u>Public Notice</u> webpage (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/public_notices/) and the <u>TMDL</u> webpage (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/water_issues/programs/tmdl/). To receive a physical copy by mail, contact **Mary Castaneda** at (760) 776-8945 or Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov.

ACCESSIBILITY AND LANGUAGE NEEDS

Individuals who require special accommodations or interpreter services to participate in this meeting, please contact **Mary Castaneda** via email at Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov at least 10 days prior to the scheduled meeting to notify us that you will be utilizing these services. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-(800) 735- 2929 or voice line at 1-(800) 735-2922.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact Ryan Culhane at (760) 776-8925 or Ryan.Culhane@waterboards.ca.gov. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of anyone you believe may be interested in this matter.