

Concise Summary of Regulatory Provisions

TITLE 23. Waters

Division 4. Regional Water Quality Control Boards

Chapter 1. Water Quality Control Plans, Policies, and Guidelines

Article 3. Colorado River Basin Region

The following section 3969.1 is to be added to Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations:

Section 3969.1. Prohibition of Discharges of Wastewater into the Ground from Septic Systems in the Town of Yucca Valley.

On May 19, 2011, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, adopted Resolution No. R7-2011-0004, amending the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region. The State Water Resources Control Board approved the amendment under Resolution No. 2011-0054, on November 1, 2011.

Resolution No. R7-2011-0004 prohibits the discharge of wastewater from new or existing individual disposal systems on parcels within Phases 1, 2, and 3 of the Hi-Desert Water District (HDWD) Sewer Master Plan (Final Report, January 2007) no later than May 19, 2016, May 19, 2019, and May 19, 2022, respectively, or when a municipal sewage collection system becomes available, whichever occurs first. The prohibition allows the Colorado River Basin Water Board to consider and grant exemptions on a case-by-case basis, pursuant to exemption applications submitted to the Executive Officer. Exemptions granted must be based upon the weight of evidence demonstrating unique technical, environmental, or economic conditions that would make connection to the collection system or installation of an on-site advanced treatment and disposal system technically impracticable or economically excessively burdensome.

HDWD is required to submit a report to the Colorado River Basin Water Board describing an implementation plan to comply with the May 19, 2016, the May 19, 2019, and the May 19, 2022 prohibition dates. Thereafter, HDWD is required to submit bi-annual reports to the Colorado River Basin Water Board by January 1st and July 1st of each year regarding any actions taken by HDWD or any other person or entity in order to achieve compliance by the above deadlines. The Executive Officer is also directed to provide the Regional Water Board an annual written report, beginning on May 23, 2012, regarding overall progress to achieve compliance with the terms of the prohibition.