Notice of Decision

TO: John Laird
Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Jose L. Angel, P.E.
Executive Officer
Colorado River Basin Water Board
73-720 Fred Waring Dr. Ste. 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Decision in compliance with section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code

PROJECT PROponent: Colorado River Basin Water Board

PROJECT TITLE: AMENDMENT TO THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN TO REVISE A SEPTIC TANK DISCHARGE PROHIBITION FOR THE TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY, CA - SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

LOCATION: Town of Yucca Valley, San Bernardino County

DESCRIPTION: On May 19, 2011, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board) adopted Resolution No. R7-2011-0004, amending the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water 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.

On March 10, 2016, the Colorado River Basin Water Board adopted Resolution No. R7-2016-0001 revising the prohibition adopted in Resolution No. R7-2011-0004. The State Water Board approved these revisions under Resolution No. 2016-0050 on September 20, 2016. Resolution No. R7-2016-0001 revises the prohibition as follows:

(1) Extends the Phase 1 compliance deadline from May 19, 2016, to June 30, 2021;
(2) Consolidates and extends the Phase 2 and Phase 3 compliance deadlines of May 19, 2019, and May 19, 2021, respectively, into a single deadline of December 31, 2025;
(3) Revises the internal boundaries for Phases 1, 2, and 3 to coincide with the construction of the HDWD’s sewage collection system;
(4) Incorporates criteria for addressing “deferred parcels,” which are properties that do not generate sufficient wastewater to ensure proper operation of a sewage collection system;
(5) Establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to collect information on deferred parcels; and
(6) Eliminates outdated and unnecessary language.

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This is to advise that the Colorado River Basin Water Board has made the following determination regarding the above described project:

The project has been: X approved

             disapproved

Jose L. Angel, P.E.
Executive Officer

March 7, 2017
Date