



Linda S. Adams
*Secretary for
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California Regional Water Quality Control Board Colorado River Basin Region

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

May 6, 2010

Daniel Borunda, Acting Chief
Environmental Management Division
International Boundary and Water Commission, United States Section
The Commons, Building C, Suite 310
4171 N. Mesa Street
El Paso, Texas 79902

Dear Mr. Borunda:

**SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO USIBWC PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING TMDL
AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR DISSOLVED OXYGEN IN THE
NEW RIVER AT THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY**

Thank you for reviewing and commenting on the draft Basin Plan Amendment regarding the "Total Maximum Daily Load and Implementation Plan for Dissolved Oxygen in the New River at the International Boundary" and its supporting documents. Our responses to the comments you provided in your letter, dated April 1, 2010, are set forth below.

COMMENT 1:

"The International Boundary and Water Commission, United States Section (USIBWC) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the subject action. The USIBWC understands the proposed action will place the New River at the International Boundary to 12 miles downstream into a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) status due to poorly treated wastewater discharge into the New River.

"The USIBWC has reviewed the data collected at this site by USIBWC personnel and concurs with the finding based on the dissolved oxygen not achieving a minimum of 5.0 milligrams per liter. Our data shows that this value is not being achieved from 25 to 58 percent of the samples collected for the past 4 years."

RESPONSE:

Regional Water Board staff appreciates the information. Staff also appreciates your continued cooperation with the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Board's TMDL Program. Staff's goal is to ensure that the text in the TMDL and Basin Plan is consistent, protective of water quality, and addresses the objectives of the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Board in protecting beneficial uses of waters of the state.

COMMENT 2:

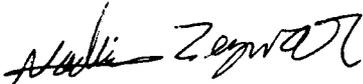
"The USIBWC would like to be included in this process as the New River and the environmental issues in the river are of a bi-national nature and will require cooperation with entities in Mexico, as well as, the United States. Furthermore, implementation of a TMDL program cannot be successful without the cooperation of all parties involved to include Mexico."

RESPONSE:

Regional Water Board staff agrees that implementation of this TMDL program cannot be successful without the cooperation of all parties including, but not limited to, USIBWC and Mexico. Staff looks forward to your cooperation and assistance in this regard.

Thank you again for your comments regarding the DO TMDL and Implementation Plan for the New River. If you have any further comments or concerns, please contact Francisco Costa at (760) 776-8937, or me at (760) 776-8942.

Sincerely,

Nadim Zeywar 
TMDL Unit Chief
Colorado River Basin
California Regional Water Quality Control Board

File: NR DO TMDL