



Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board

TO: Mr. Wade Crowfoot
Secretary, Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Paula Rasmussen 
Executive Officer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board,
Colorado River Basin Region

DATE: January 19, 2023

SUBJECT: TRANSMITTAL OF NOTICE OF DECISION - AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

On June 15, 2021, the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board (Colorado River Basin Water Board) adopted Resolution R7-2021-0028, amending the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region (Basin Plan). The amendment revises the Septic Tank Wastewater Discharge Prohibition for the Town of Yucca Valley (Prohibition) contained in Chapter 4, Section II.H.2.iii. of the Basin Plan to extend and streamline prohibition deadlines, revise the number of deferred parcels, incorporate a compliance period, add compliance date extensions for recently-installed septic systems, require advanced treatment units for new and replacement septic systems on exempt parcels, revising reporting requirements, and modifying other language for clarity, accuracy, and consistency (Basin Plan Amendment.) The Basin Plan Amendment was subsequently approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) under Resolution No. 2021-0051 on December 7, 2021, and by the Office of Administrative Law on December 5, 2022.

The Basin Planning Program is a certified regulatory program for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). (Pub. Resources Code, § 21080.5.) A Basin Plan Amendment approved under a certified regulatory program is not final until the State Water Board files with the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency: (1) the OAL Notice of Decision; and (2) either a Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) written “no effect” determination, or a receipt of payment of the CDFW filing fee. The potential environmental impacts from this Basin Plan Amendment were addressed in Substitute Environmental Documentation (SED) prepared for two preceding amendments associated with the Prohibition. The first amendment established the Prohibition and was adopted by the Colorado River Basin Water Board on May 19, 2011 under Resolution R7-2011-0004; the second amendment revised the prohibition and

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was adopted by the Colorado River Basin Water Board on March 10, 2016 under Resolution No. R7-2016-0001. Colorado River Basin Water Board submitted CEQA filing fees to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for both previous amendments. Because the prior SEDs adequately address the potential environmental impacts of the Prohibition and no further environmental review was necessary, the subject Basin Plan Amendment does not require a “no effect” determination or paying the CDFW filing fee.

Enclosed herewith are: Colorado River Basin Water Board Resolution R7-2021-0028; the Basin Plan Amendment OAL Notice of Decision; State Water Board Resolution No. 2021-0051; and a self-addressed and stamped envelope. Please return one copy of the OAL Notice of Decision as notification of the date received for filing at the Natural Resources Agency.

Should you have any questions regarding this Basin Plan amendment, please contact Maria Davydova-Flores at (760) 776 8947 or Maria.Davydova-Flores@waterboards.ca.gov .

Attachments:

Notice of Decision

State Water Board Resolution No. 2021-0051

Colorado River Basin Water Board Resolution R7-2021-0028