

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION**

73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260  
Phone: (760) 346-7491

Public Notice No. 7-19-04  
March 29, 2019  
NPDES No. CA0104451

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
FOR  
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT AND  
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (WDRs)  
PROPOSED ORDER R7-2019-0005**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board) is releasing for public review and comment proposed Order R7 2019-0005, which will serve as an NPDES permit and WDRs for the Niland Wastewater Treatment Plant. The following discharger has applied for reissuance of the current NPDES permit, Order R7-2014-0001, under section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act NPDES permit program (33 U.S.C. § 1342):

**NILAND COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT  
NILAND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
125 N. ALCOTT ROAD  
NILAND, CA 92257**

Colorado River Basin Water Board staff has prepared proposed Order R7-2019-0005 (Proposed Order) for the above discharger containing effluent and receiving water limitations and special provisions in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.) and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Water Code, § 13000 et seq.). The public hearing to consider adoption of the Proposed Order will be on:

Date: May 15, 2019  
Time: ~~10:00~~ 10:30 a.m.  
Location: City of Blythe  
Council Chambers  
235 N. Broadway  
Blythe, CA 92225

**BACKGROUND**

The Niland County Sanitation District (Discharger) owns and operates the Niland Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility). The current total design capacity of the wastewater treatment plant is 0.5 million gallons per day (MGD). The discharge consists of disinfected equivalent-to-secondary treated wastewater. The treatment process includes a headworks (manual bar screen and a lift pump station), three lined ponds connected in series (Ponds 1, 2, and 3), each with two aeration units for aerated stabilization, and contact chlorination using sodium hypochlorite followed by dechlorination using sodium bisulfite.

The plant handles and directs overflow discharge from the headworks to an emergency overflow basin, located parallel to the aeration pond. A separate groundwater pump station, located

adjacent to the influent lift pump station, was designed to lower the water level under and around the aeration basins to prevent infiltrating water from compromising the liner when the basin is emptied for cleaning and/or maintenance. Accumulated biosolids are dredged from the lagoons and from the chlorination chamber cell bottoms and disposed of on drying beds. Dried solids are analyzed prior to removal off-site for disposal at a landfill.

The Niland Wastewater Treatment Plant services a population of approximately 1,000 located in the town of Niland. Wastewater is discharged from Discharge Point 001 to the "R" Drain, a water of the United States, a direct tributary to the Salton Sea.

The Facility is currently regulated by an NPDES Permit and WDRs (NPDES Permit No. CA0104451, Order R7-2014-0001), which was adopted on May 8, 2014 and expires on May 31, 2019. The Discharger filed a report of waste discharge (ROWD) and submitted an application for reissuance of its WDRs and NPDES permit on December 12, 2018.

#### **DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**

The full text of the current NPDES permit, Order R7-2014-0001, and the tentative revised NPDES permit are available on the Colorado River Basin Water Board's website at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradriver/board\\_decisions/tentative\\_orders/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradriver/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml)

If you need a hard copy of these orders mailed to you, please contact Mary Castaneda by phone at (760) 776-8945 or e-mail at [mary.castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mary.castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov).

#### **SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS**

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will accept written comments during a thirty (30) day public comment period, which begins March 29, 2019 and ends April 29, 2019. Written comments on the proposed Board Order must be received no later than **5:00 p.m., April 29, 2019**.

Comments should be mailed to the attention of Kai Dunn at the address shown below or emailed to [Kai.Dunn@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Kai.Dunn@waterboards.ca.gov).

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The Colorado River Basin Water Board will prepare written responses to significant comments that are timely received. If written comments to the Colorado River Basin Water Board are not timely submitted, late comments will not be accepted if doing so would prejudice any party in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648.4.

#### **HEARING PROCEDURE**

Affected stakeholders and other interested persons are invited to attend and express their views on this matter at the public hearing, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. In addition, to ensure accuracy of the record, the Colorado River Basin Water Board requests that any speakers who have prepared written statements for oral presentation at the hearing submit those statements to Colorado River Basin Water Board staff before or during the hearing.

Those who wish to speak at the hearing will be asked to fill out a speaker request card and provide it to Colorado River Basin Water Board staff. Comments from the public will be limited to three (3)

minutes per person. Any person planning to make a presentation to the Colorado River Basin Water Board that requires the use of visual aids (such as overheads, slides, or video projector) should contact the assigned staff person to make arrangements before the meeting date in order to avoid unnecessary delays during the meeting. Where speakers can be grouped by affiliation or interest, such groups will be expected to select a spokesperson and not be repetitive.

More information about the Colorado River Basin Water Board's Meeting Procedures is available at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board\\_info/agenda/docs/bm\\_procedures.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_info/agenda/docs/bm_procedures.pdf)

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Contact Kai Dunn, Water Resources Control Engineer, at (760) 776-8986 or email at [Kaii.Dunn@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Kaii.Dunn@waterboards.ca.gov) for any questions regarding the Proposed Order.

**ACCESSIBILITY**

If you are disabled and require special accommodations to participate in this public hearing, please contact Hilda Vasquez at (760) 776-8950 or e-mail at [hvasquez@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:hvasquez@waterboards.ca.gov) no later than ten (10) days before the scheduled public hearing. If you need interpreter services, please contact Mary Castaneda at (760) 776-8945 or via email [Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov) at least 10 working days prior to the meeting.

Please bring the foregoing to the attention of anyone you believe may be interested in this matter.

File: W DID No. 7A 13 0109 011, Niland SD WWTP, Order R7-2019-0005  
ECM: CW-244348