STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2019-0001

APPROVING A NON-REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION TO MAKE ADMINISTRATIVE, EDITORIAL CHANGES THAT UPDATE LANGUAGE AND GRAPHICS RELATED TO THE SALTON SEA AND CORRECT GENERAL ERRORS

WHEREAS:

- 1. On June 14, 2018, the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board (Colorado River Basin Water Board) adopted <u>Resolution R7-2018-0018</u>, approving an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region (Basin Plan) to make administrative, editorial changes that update language and graphics related to the Salton Sea and correct general errors (Amendment). A strikeout/underline version and a clean copy of the revisions made throughout the Basin Plan are contained in Resolution R7-2018-0018, <u>Attachment B</u> and <u>Attachment C</u>, respectively.
- Following the adoption of Resolution R7-2018-0018, Colorado River Basin Water Board staff determined that minor, non-substantive changes to the language of the Amendment were necessary to correct minor clerical errors. The Executive Officer of the Colorado River Basin Water Board made these minor, non-substantive changes in a memorandum dated June 29, 2018.
- 3. The proposed Amendment updates and revises descriptions and graphics relating to the Salton Sea in Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the Basin Plan; these changes reflect the current condition of the Salton Sea and recent legislative and regulatory developments, as well as provide additional necessary information in a clear and concise fashion.
- 4. The proposed Amendment also corrects general errors throughout the entire Basin Plan, including the Cover Page, Foreword, Table of Contents, and Chapters 1 through 6. These changes correct typographical errors, clarify confusing language in the Basin Plan, update agency names, and standardize formatting and cross-referencing throughout the document.
- 5. The proposed Amendment is non-regulatory in nature and imposes no new regulatory requirements. The Amendment does not involve changes to water quality standards or their implementation provisions. The non-regulatory, administrative changes are intended solely to provide more current information and to improve the clarity and convenience of the Basin Plan. A summary of the necessity for the Amendment is found in the Staff Report dated June 13, 2018.
- 6. Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.5, the Natural Resources Agency has approved the basin planning process of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and Regional Water Quality Control Boards as a "certified regulatory program" that satisfies California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.) requirements for preparing environmental documents. (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15251, subd. (g).) However, as an amendment consisting of non-regulatory, administrative updates to the Basin Plan, the Amendment will not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment and is not a "project" under CEQA. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15358, 15378, subd. (b)(5).) Accordingly, the State Water Board's CEQA regulations do not apply to this action. (23 Cal. Code Regs. § 3720, subd. (b).)

- 7. Because the Amendment consists of non-regulatory, administrative updates to the Basin Plan, this action is not subject to Water Code sections 13241 and 13242. However, the State Water Board nevertheless finds that the Amendment will have no impact on any of the factors set forth in Water Code section 13241.
- 8. The Amendment does not become effective until approved by the State Water Board and the Office of Administrative Law has concurred on its nonregulatory status.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

- 1. Approves the Amendment to the Basin Plan adopted under Colorado River Basin Water Board Resolution R7-2018-0018.
- 2. Authorizes the Executive Director or her designee to submit the Amendment adopted under Colorado River Basin Water Board Resolution R7-2018-0018 as approved and the administrative record for this action to the Office of Administrative Law for concurrence with its non-regulatory status.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on January 8, 2019.

AYE: Chair Felicia Marcus

Board Member Tam M. Doduc Board Member Dorene D'Adamo Board Member E. Joaquin Esquivel Board Member Sean Maguire

NAY: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

> Jeanine Townsend Clerk to the Board

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