

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

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

Public Notice 7-24-30
September 11, 2024

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

**PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND STIPULATION FOR ENTRY OF
ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY ORDER R7-2024-0026**

**PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, OWNER/OPERATOR
RIVERSIDE COUNTY**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board) is releasing for public comment a proposed resolution for violations of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order R7-2012-0001, Rancho Mirage High School Cooling Towers WDRs (RMHS WDRs).

On September 5 2024, the Assistant Executive Officer of the Colorado River Basin Water Board signed proposed Settlement Agreement and Stipulation for Entry of Administrative Civil Liability Order No. R7-2024-0026 (Stipulated Order), entered into with the Palm Springs Unified School District (Discharger), to resolve alleged violations of failing to timely submit monitoring reports as required by the RMHS WDRs. The Discharger consistently failed to submit timely Monthly, Quarterly, and Annual Monitoring Reports between January 19, 2012, to November 2022.

The Discharger and Colorado River Basin Water Board Prosecution Team (collectively, the Parties) have entered into a tentative settlement to resolve the violations alleged in the proposed Stipulated Order. As a result, the Parties have agreed to settle the matter and the Prosecution Team believes that the resolution of the alleged violations is fair and reasonable and fulfills the Prosecution Team's enforcement objectives, that no further action is warranted concerning the specific violations, and that the proposed Stipulated Order is in the public's best interest.

The Settlement Agreement would require the Discharger to pay \$78,777.87 in administrative civil liability to the State Water Resources Control Board Cleanup and Abatement Account.

Pursuant to federal regulations, the Colorado River Basin Water Board is releasing the Settlement Agreement for public comment.

If no comments are received within thirty (30) days and no new material facts become

available, the Executive Officer will consider the Settlement Agreement for adoption pursuant to the Colorado River Basin Water Board's delegation of authority. If, however, significant comments are received in opposition to the Settlement Agreement, the offer may be withdrawn and the matter may be set for hearing.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

Additional information and relevant documents related to this matter may be reviewed online at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/public_notices/.

If you need a hard copy of the proposed Stipulated Order mailed to you, please contact Mary Castaneda by phone at (760) 776-8945 or e-mail at Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will accept written comments regarding the Settlement Agreement during a 30-day public comment period, which begins **September 11, 2024** and ends **October 11, 2024**. Persons wishing to submit written comments are requested to do so as soon as possible, but no later than **5:00 p.m., October 11, 2024**.

Comments should be mailed to the attention of Michael Perez at the address shown below, emailed to Michael.Perez@waterboards.ca.gov or faxed to the office at (760) 341-6820.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact Michael Perez at Michael.Perez@waterboards.ca.gov