

**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. 7-25-01
Notice Date: February 10, 2025
NPDES Permit CA7000009

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
PROPOSED ORDER R7-2025-XXXX**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board) is releasing for public review and comment Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements Order R7-2025-XXXX (Tentative Order), which will serve as the reissuance of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Number CA7000009 and Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the following discharger and facility:

CITY OF CALEXICO
(Discharger)

CALEXICO WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT
298 WEST 2ND STREET
CALEXICO – IMPERIAL COUNTY
(Facility)

The City of Calexico has applied for reissuance of the Calexico Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) NPDES Permit, previously issued per WDRs Order R7-2019-0004, issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1342), and pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Wat. Code, § 13000 et seq.).

HEARING PARTICIPATION

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of the Tentative Order at the date, time and location specified below:

Date: April 1, 2025
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Colorado River Basin Water Board's Boardroom
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, California 92260

(virtual public participation available; see below)

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The public may participate either in person at the physical meeting location or virtually via the Zoom meeting platform. Instructions concerning how to participate virtually are available on the Regional Water Board's website. Persons desiring to receive information about changes to the format of this meeting should subscribe to the [Lyris email list](#) (Select Board Meetings Agenda).

Interested persons are invited to attend and express their views orally on this matter at the public hearing. The Colorado River Basin Water Board requests that those persons wishing to speak at the hearing provide a copy of their oral comments in writing before or during the hearing to ensure accuracy of the record. Links for the meeting, a phone call option, and [Remote Participation Instructions](#) are posted on the Board's website (www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_info/remote_meeting/#participation_via_video_conference).

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the Board's [Meeting Procedures](#) (www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_info/agenda/docs/bm_procedures.pdf).

BACKGROUND

The Discharger owns and operates a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system (Facility) located in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 14, T17S, R14E, SBB&M. The Facility provides service to a population of approximately 38,249 located in the City of Calexico. The permitted maximum daily flow limitation is equal to the design capacity of the Facility which is 4.3 million gallons per day (MGD). The discharge from the Facility consists of disinfected secondary treated wastewater.

Wastewater received at the headworks is screened at influent pump stations #1 and #2 and pumped to two circular primary clarifiers for removal of Suspended Solids and reduction of Biological Oxygen Demand. After clarification, flow is distributed from the primary effluent structure for secondary treatment.

The Facility provides secondary treatment through two treatment trains: an activated sludge treatment system with a design capacity of 2.5 MGD, referred to as Plant #1, and an aerated lagoon treatment system with a design capacity of 1.8 MGD, referred to as Plant #2.

Plant #1 provides extended aeration activated sludge biological treatment through three concrete-lined aeration basins fitted with surface aerators operated in parallel. Three circular secondary clarifiers remove solids after aeration. Return sludge from the clarifiers is directed to influent pump station #1 and combines with raw wastewater to maintain sufficient levels of biomass in the system.

Plant #2 consists of a set of four aerated lagoons operated in series. Each treatment lagoon has an approximate volume of 3 million gallons and is equipped with floating aerators.

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COMMENT DEADLINE
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Secondary effluent from both treatment systems is combined for disinfection by an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system prior to discharge. Wastewater is discharged from Discharge Point 001 or Discharge Point 002 to the New River, a water of the United States.

Sludge generated from the primary clarifiers is pumped to two 238,000-gallon anaerobic digesters that are normally operated in series. Secondary sludge from Plant #1 is thickened by dissolved air flotation before being pumped to the digesters. Digested sludge is dewatered using drying beds and is stored for a period of no more than two years before being hauled by a contractor to Yuma, Arizona for land application of the Class B solids. Sludge may be removed periodically from the lagoons as needed in Plant #2.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will accept comments during a 30-day public comment period, which ends on **March 10, 2025**. Written comments on the proposed Order must be received no later than **5:00 p.m.** on **March 10, 2025**. Comments received by this deadline will be included in the administrative record.

Comments should be mailed to the attention of **Fatima Alrahem** at the address shown below or emailed to: Fatima.Alrahem@Waterboards.ca.gov or faxed to the office at (760) 341-6820.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
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DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The Tentative Order has been posted to the Board's [Tentative Orders](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml) webpage (www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml).

To receive a physical copy by mail, contact **Mary Castaneda** at (760) 776-8945 or at Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov.

ACCESSIBILITY AND LANGUAGE NEEDS

Individuals who require special accommodations or interpreter services to participate in this meeting, please contact **Mary Castaneda** via email at Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov at least 10 days prior to the scheduled meeting

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to notify us that you will be utilizing these services. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-(800) 735-2929 or voice line at 1-(800) 735-2922.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact **Fatima Alrahem** at (760) 313-1290 or Fatima.Alrahem@Waterboards.ca.gov. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of anyone you believe may be interested in this matter.

File: WDID No. 7A130101011, Calexico Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP), Board Order R7-2025-XXXX

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