



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Colorado River Basin Region



Winston H. Hickox
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

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Gray Davis
Governor

January 8, 2001

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Jack Safely, Project Manager
Metropolitan Water District
Water Resources Management Group
P.O. Box 54153
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Received 1/10/01

RE: CADIZ GROUNDWATER STORAGE AND DRY-YEAR SUPPLY PROGRAM SUPPLEMENT TO THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT / DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

On October 19, 2000, the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 7) received the document entitled Cadiz Groundwater Storage and Dry-Year Supply Program Supplement to the Draft Environmental Impact Report / Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Report No. 1169, State Clearing House Number 99021039, and dated October 12, 2000. The Cadiz Program is designed to assist Southern California residents with their current and future water supply needs through storage of available Colorado River water in a groundwater aquifer system during wet-years, and the extraction and supply of stored Colorado River water and indigenous groundwater during dry-years.

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In accordance with the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, it is the responsibility of the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards to protect, restore, and enhance the quality of surface and ground waters of the State to ensure the attainment and maintenance of all designated beneficial uses. The subject project is located within the boundaries of the Route Sixty Six Hydrologic Unit (# 710.00), Bristol (# 710.10) and Fenner (# 710.20) Hydrologic Areas of Region 7. The designated groundwater beneficial uses within the Bristol Hydrologic Area are identified within the Region 7 Water Quality Control Plan as municipal and domestic (MUN), industrial service (IND), and agricultural (AGR) supplies. Historical and recent groundwater analytical data from the subject groundwater aquifers indicates the presence of detectable concentrations of several inorganic constituents, which in some instances approach or exceed the drinking water standards established by the California Department of Health Services (Primary Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs)). Presently, the source of the constituents, particularly Arsenic and Chromium, is unclear and may be resolved through further investigation.

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Liann Chavez at (760) 776-8945.


BEATRICE GRIFFEY
Associate Engineering Geologist

BG/kt

cc: State Clearinghouse, Sacramento
Bureau of Land Management, Riverside
San Bernardino County Planning Department, San Bernardino

File: ER WDA

California Environmental Protection Agency