



## **International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section**

For immediate release  
November 3, 2011

### **SOUTH BAY INTERNATIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND TIJUANA FLOOD CONTROL ON AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 17 PUBLIC MEETING**

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) has scheduled a public meeting of the USIBWC Citizens Forum on Thursday, November 17, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Dempsey Holder Safety Center, 950 Ocean Lane, Imperial Beach, CA 91932. Environmental issues associated with the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (SBIWTP) and a new flood control project in Tijuana will be discussed. The purpose of the Citizens Forum is to promote the exchange of information between the USIBWC and the community about Commission projects and related activities.

Robert Nienhuis, SBIWTP Operations Supervisor for Veolia Water North America, the company that operates the treatment plant under contract with the USIBWC, will provide a brief overview of SBIWTP operations, including the plant's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements and plant treatment processes. He will also discuss treatment issues that have occurred at the facility since secondary treatment was initiated in November 2010. These issues include hydraulic bypassing, plant upsets, and construction contractor warranty work, which have contributed to fluctuation of the plant's effluent quality.

There will also be a presentation about mitigation associated with construction of the SBIWTP secondary treatment upgrade. Rob Stroop of URS Corporation and Mayda Winter with the Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association will present the status of mitigation, which includes the cleanout of the

Goat Canyon sediment basins, which control the flow of sediment and debris into the Tijuana River Valley and Estuary, and restoration of five acres of land downstream from the basins. The restoration will provide a seamless link between an ongoing restoration site and an existing coastal sage scrub hillside.

In other business, Francisco Tellez Gamez with Mexico's National Water Commission (Conagua) in Baja California will provide information on design and construction of the new Rio Alamar channelization project, which will connect with the portion of the Tijuana River Flood Control Project in Mexico and will provide additional flood protection for residents and businesses in Tijuana.

A complete agenda follows. Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting may call 619-662-7600 or e-mail [sally.spener@ibwc.gov](mailto:sally.spener@ibwc.gov).

For more information:

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**USIBWC CITIZENS FORUM**  
**Thursday, November 17, 2011**  
**6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**  
**Dempsey Holder Safety Center**  
**950 Ocean Lane**  
**Imperial Beach, CA 91932**

**Agenda**

- Welcome and Introductions – Ben McCue, Citizens Forum Co-Chair
- South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (SBIWTP) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Compliance Update 2011 – Robert Nienhuis, SBIWTP Operations Supervisor, Veolia Water North America
- Habitat Mitigation Associated with Construction of the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade - Rob Stroop, Senior Project Manager, URS Corporation, and Mayda Winter, Project Manager, Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association
- Rio Alamar Channelization and Flood Control Project – Francisco Tellez Gamez, Baja California Technical Director, Mexico's National Water Commission (Conagua)
- Public Comment
- Board Discussion
- Suggested Future Agenda Items

If you have a disability that you wish to self-identify confidentially that requires accommodation, please advise us ahead of time. For information, call 619-662-7600 or e-mail [sally.spener@ibwc.gov](mailto:sally.spener@ibwc.gov).