



**International Boundary and Water Commission
United States and Mexico**

FACT SHEET

MINUTE 319, "INTERIM INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE MEASURES IN THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN THROUGH 2017 AND EXTENSION OF MINUTE 318 COOPERATIVE MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE CONTINUED EFFECTS OF THE APRIL 2010 EARTHQUAKE IN THE MEXICALI VALLEY, BAJA CALIFORNIA"

- Signed on November 20, 2012. Minute term is five years (through December 31, 2017).
- Binding agreement of the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, to help implement the 1944 Water Treaty between the two countries.
- Extends humanitarian measures from a 2010 agreement, Minute 318, to allow Mexico to defer delivery of a portion of its Colorado River allotment while it continues to make repairs to earthquake-damaged infrastructure.
- Establishes proactive basin operations through the sharing of benefits of water that may be available temporarily through high Lake Mead reservoir conditions and also reducing water delivery when reservoir conditions are low in order to reduce the risk of more severe reductions in the future.
- Establishes a program of Intentionally Created Mexican Allocation (ICMA) whereby Mexican water resulting from conservation and new water sources projects could essentially be held in the United States for subsequent delivery to Mexico in the future.
- Implements measures to address salinity impacts stemming from the joint cooperative actions.
- Through conservation projects generates water for the environment of the Colorado River limitrophe (boundary segment) and delta.
- Establishes a pilot exchange program under which U.S. entities assist in funding water infrastructure and environmental projects in Mexico. These investments provide water benefits to the U.S. agencies in exchange for their funding and generate water for Mexico over the long term.
- Outlines potential opportunities for future cooperation between the United States and Mexico on topics such as environmental restoration, water conservation, system operations, and new water sources projects.
- Establishes the expectation that the Commission will conclude another agreement in the future to extend or replace the substantive provisions of Minute 319.

The full text of Minute 319 is available at http://www.ibwc.gov/Files/Minutes/Minute_319.pdf