



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

For immediate release  
January 10, 2022

### **U.S. COMMISSIONER TO ATTEND JANUARY 19 CITIZENS FORUM FOR THE COLORADO RIVER; PROGRESS OF THE NEW RIVER IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND U.S.-MEXICO COLORADO RIVER COOPERATION ON AGENDA**

Commissioner Maria-Elena Giner, head of the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) will attend the Colorado River Citizens Forum on **Wednesday, January 19, 4:00-6:00 p.m. MST/3:00 – 5:00 p.m. PST via Teams webinar.**

The New River Improvement Project and U.S.-Mexico Colorado River cooperation will be the focus of the meeting, which is open to the public. The Colorado River Citizens Forum was established to facilitate the exchange of information with the public about Commission activities and related matters.

An update on the New River Improvement Project Calexico Reach will be provided by Program Manager Jose L. Angel, P.E., City of Calexico. The Project has three main components: a Trash Screen and Diversion Structure for the New River downstream from the international boundary; a 72-inch underground bypass pipe to divert up to 160 cubic feet per second of the polluted flow from Mexico from a point about 800 feet downstream from the border to a point about 300 feet upstream of where the river crosses the All-American Canal Siphon; and a pump-back system to discharge treated, disinfected wastewater from the City of Calexico Wastewater

Treatment Plant immediately downstream of the diversion structure. Mr. Angel will provide an overview of these Project components, Project permitting status, and draft construction schedule.

In other business, USIBWC Secretary Sally Spener will give a presentation on Minute No. 323, a comprehensive Commission agreement related to U.S.-Mexico cooperation on the Colorado River. The Minute covers development of water conservation projects, environmental restoration, and drought management, among other topics. Ms. Spener will provide an update on implementation of the Minute, including how the United States and Mexico are cooperating in light of the first declared shortage on the Colorado River.

A complete meeting agenda follows. Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting may contact 928-782-1598 or the Public Affairs Office at [lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov](mailto:lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov).

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**COLORADO RIVER CITIZENS FORUM**  
**Wednesday, January 19, 2022**  
**4:00 – 6:00 p.m. MST/3:00 – 5:00 p.m. PST**  
**Teams Webinar**

**To join our Teams Meeting, go to our web page:**

<https://go.usa.gov/xH4zN> and click on “Join”. If you do not have Teams installed on the device you will use to attend the meeting, it will work through any internet browser. If possible, it may be helpful for you to test connectivity on your own prior to the meeting by clicking on the Join link and ensuring your camera and microphone are functioning.

Or join by phone: **Call in number: 915-320-4718 | Conference ID: 980 850 278#**

**Agenda**

- **Opening Remarks**—Dr. Maria-Elena Giner, Commissioner, USIBWC
- **Welcome and Introductions**—Anna Morales, Yuma Field Office Area Operations Manager, USIBWC, and Citizens Forum Co-Chair
- **Progress of the New River Improvement Plan**— Jose L. Angel, P.E., City of Calexico Program Manager for the New River Improvement Project Calexico Reach
- **Update on Minute No. 323 on U. S.-Mexico Colorado River Cooperation**—Sally Spener, Secretary, USIBWC
- **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 more information, call 928-782-1598 or e-mail [lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov](mailto:lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov)*

**\*\*If you are receiving your notice via United States Postal Service and would like to only receive notices via email, please send “Opt-in, CRCF” to [lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov](mailto:lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov)**