



## International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release  
August 29, 2019

### **CONCERN OVER PFAS CONTAMINANTS IN WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATIONS IN MEXICO TO BE DISCUSSED AT SEPTEMBER 12 MEETING IN NOGALES**

PFAS, a class of contaminants found in water, and the Los Alisos Wastewater Treatment Plant operations in Nogales, Sonora will be discussed at the next public meeting of the Southeast Arizona Citizens Forum of the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) on **Thursday, September 12, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Nogales City Hall Council Chambers, 777 N. Grand Ave., Nogales, Arizona.**

Mark L. Brusseau, Professor, University of Arizona, will be speaking about a specific class of contaminants of emerging concern called per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS for short. These compounds have been found in groundwater, surface water, soil, treated wastewater, biosolids, and drinking water in communities across the U.S. and many other countries. The presentation will discuss the basic properties of PFAS and explain why they are very persistent in the environment. Dr. Brusseau will then discuss the many sources of PFAS, reported occurrences in Arizona, and potential health and environmental impacts. Dr. Brusseau will wrap up with discussion of the current regulatory status and methods of treatment.

Engineer José de Jesús Quintanar Guadarrama, Agricultural Engineer with the Mexican Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission will give a presentation on the Los

Alisos Wastewater Treatment Plant in Sonora, Mexico and its current condition. Mr. Quintanar will also be speaking on the construction of the plant, the operation of the sanitation collection system, the treatment process, and plans to expand the plant.

The USIBWC established the Southeast Arizona Citizens Forum in 2003 to facilitate the exchange of information between the USIBWC and members of the public about Commission projects and related activities in the Southeast region of Arizona.

A complete agenda follows. Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting may call 520-281-1832 or email [lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov](mailto:lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov).

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**SOUTHEAST ARIZONA CITIZENS FORUM**

**Thursday, September 12, 2019**

**5:00 - 7:00 P.M.**

**Nogales City Hall – Council Chambers**

**777 N. Grand Avenue\***

**Nogales, AZ 85621**

**AGENDA**

- **Welcome and Introductions** – John Light, Nogales Field Office Area Operations Manager, USIBWC
- **Per-and Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substances in the Environment**—Mark L. Brusseau, Professor, University of Arizona
- **Los Alisos Wastewater Treatment Plant**—Engineer José de Jesús Quintanar Guadarrama, Agricultural Engineer, Mexican Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission
- Public Comment
- Board Discussion
- Suggested Future Agenda Items

**\*Directions:** Directions: Take I-19 south to Exit 4 (AZ-189) toward Border Truck Route. Turn left on AZ-189/W. Mariposa Road. Go 0.8 miles to Grand Avenue. Turn right and travel 1.6 miles to City Hall, on the right.

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 520-281-1832.