



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
September 25, 2020

COOPERATION TO ADDRESS SANITATION ISSUES AND REHABILITATION OF THE NOGALES SEWAGE PIPELINE TO BE DISCUSSED AT OCTOBER 8 MEETING VIA WEBINAR

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) has scheduled a public meeting of the Southeast Arizona Citizens Forum (SEAZCF) on **October 8, 4:00-6:00 p.m. MST via webinar**. The meeting will cover the comprehensive plan the USIBWC and Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) developed to mitigate future discharges of untreated wastewater into the Nogales Wash and the Santa Cruz River, and the design and status of the construction project.

Jennifer T. Peña, Chief Legal Counsel, USIBWC, will discuss how federal, state and local governments have historically worked together to address sanitation issues across the border. In Arizona, ADEQ and the USIBWC settled a lengthy litigation case to address Clean Water Act issues and developed a comprehensive plan to mitigate future discharges of untreated wastewater into the Nogales Wash and Santa Cruz River in Nogales, Arizona. With \$38,790,000 in federal, state and local non-profit resources, this plan will bring much-needed infrastructure improvements to Santa Cruz County.

The Nogales International Outfall Interceptor (IOI) transports untreated wastewater from Mexico and the United States to the Nogales International Wastewater Treatment Plant (NIWTP)

in Rio Rico, Arizona. After 50 years of service, the pipeline needs rehabilitation. The USIBWC has prepared the design to repair the IOI using Cured in Place Pipe (CIPP) technology.

Wayne Belzer, USIBWC Environmental Engineer, will provide a history of the design, the final design, and the current status of the planned construction project.

The Southeast Arizona Citizens Forum was established to facilitate the exchange of information between the USIBWC and the community about Commission projects and related activities in in Santa Cruz, Cochise, and Pima Counties. A complete meeting agenda follows.

To join our Teams Meeting, click [here](#). Click on “**Join Meeting**”. 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: **582 759 983#**
For those connecting via phone, the presentations will be available before the start of the meeting [here](#). Look for the links for the 10/8/2020 meeting. If you would like to speak during public comment, then please sign up ahead of time by contacting Lori Kuczanski at lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov or 915-494-6027 by noon on October 8.

Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting may call 520-281-1832 or the Public Affairs Office at lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov.

For more information:

Lori Kuczanski

(915) 494-6027

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SOUTHEAST ARIZONA CITIZENS FORUM
Thursday, October 8, 2020
4:00 – 6:00 p.m. MST

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

https://ibwc.gov/Citizens_Forums/CF_SE_AZ.html and click on “Join Meeting”. 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.

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Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions** – John Light, Nogales Field Office Area Operations Manager, USIBWC, and Citizens Forum Co-Chair
- **Governments Partnering to Resolve Border Sanitation Issues**— Jennifer T. Peña, Chief Legal Counsel, USIBWC
- **Nogales International Outfall Interceptor Rehabilitation**– Wayne Belzer, Environmental Engineer, USIBWC
- **Public Comment** (To make public comment, RSVP by noon on October 8 to lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov or 915-494-6027)
- **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 520-281-1832 extension 103 or e-mail lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov