



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION City of Calexico, California

Subject: New River Improvement Project

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Calexico has prepared and intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration in connection with the subject proposed project. The Mitigated Negative Declaration and associated Initial Study identify potential effects with respect to Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, and Tribal Cultural Resources. The IS/MND also includes proposed mitigation measures that will ensure that the proposed project will not result in any significant, adverse effects on the environment. The City's decision to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration should not be construed as a recommendation of either approval or denial of this project. The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed project can be reviewed on the City's website at <http://www.calexico.ca.gov/index.asp?SEC={A1D75DB2-4863-4BAD-B511-C736B4B9A927}>

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The New River flows north from Mexico into the United States where it crosses the City of Calexico, California on its path to the Salton Sea. The State of California's Clean Water Act Section 303(d) lists the New River as impaired by numerous constituents and is a State of California priority for cleanup purposes. To address point and nonpoint sources of pollution from the New River, a New River Improvement Project Strategic Plan (Plan) was issued. The Plan identifies recommendations to address public health threats in the Calexico area of the New River.

The proposed project consists of three primary components: (1) construction of a trash screen at the International Boundary with Mexico; (2) divert and encase the river from a point downstream of the International Boundary to a point downstream of the eastern boundary of Calexico in order to bypass the populated southern area of the City of Calexico; and (3) a pump-back system to take treated wastewater from the existing City of Calexico Wastewater Treatment Plant and discharge it into the New River channel at a point near the proposed river diversion and encasement structure.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: The 30-day public review period extends from April 24, 2020 to May 25, 2020. All comments shall be received by the City by no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 25, 2020.

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NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the City invites members of the general public and agencies to review and comment on this environmental documentation. Written comments may be mailed, emailed, or faxed to the Project Manager. Copies of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and supporting documents are available for public review and inspection in front of the entrance doors of City Hall located at City Hall, 608 Heber Avenue, Calexico, CA 92231. The City's Planning Commission and City Council will conduct public hearings at future dates to be determined. You will receive a separate public notice for those hearings. If you challenge this project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised during the public review period on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration or at the future public hearings.