WATER DIVISION
WEEKLY ACTIVITY REPORT - WEEK ENDING 10/13/17

SUBMITTED FOR EPA REVIEW; BECC/NADB PROJECT CERTIFICATION PROPOSALS FOR THE COMMUNITIES OF MARATHON, TEXAS AND LOMA BLANCA, CHIHUAHUA: On October 6, 2017, 6WQ-AP staff received for review and comment the BECC/NADB Project Certification Proposals for wastewater collection projects located in the communities of Marathon, TX and Loma Blanca, Chihuahua. These infrastructure projects will be considered for certification by the Board of Directors of the Border Environment Cooperation Commission and the North American Development Bank on or after November 6, 2017. EPA's evaluation and review of the Proposals will include; potential environmental impacts, evaluation of the financial burden to the community, construction funding structure, sustainability and technical merits. The intent of both infrastructure projects is to provide first time wastewater service and eliminate raw wastewater discharges/overflows. **Gilbert T. Tellez (915) 533-7273; Salvador Gandara, 665-3194; David Reazin, 665-7501**

NAMBE PUEBLO BOTTLED WATER LIFTED AND FOLLOW UP CALL WITH GOVERNOR: On October 5, 2017, members of the Safe Drinking Water Branch. Water Enforcement Branch, and Regional Counsel participated on a call with the Governor of Nambe Pueblo and their water operator regarding EPA's lifting of the bottled water requirement that was issued under an ISO in late September 2017, after very high level of Uranium (over 3 times the MCL) was found in their water system (post-treatment), along with elevated Arsenic. After the special sampling was conducted over period of two weeks per the ISO, and adequate attentiveness was provided to the proper O&M of the water system, the results showed levels well below the MCL. EPA lifted the bottle water requirement from the ISO and set up a follow up call to discuss the follow up steps on the other part of the ISO. The call is set for October 11, 2017, to discuss follow up steps to ensure that uranium and/or arsenic are not released into the distribution system after treatment. These steps include requiring process control monitoring, regular adjustment of CO2 to control pH, continuously monitoring of pH and reporting daily the highest reading, filling out MORs and submitting MORs to EPA on time, and increased frequency of compliance sampling from quarterly to monthly until the EPA finds that the treatment and reporting process are being met. EPA will continue to provide technical assistance that include on-site assistance as needed. **Meaghan Bresnahan, 665-8354; Jose Rodriguez, 665-8087; Jatin Mistry, 665-7483; Ellen Chang-Vaughan, 665-7328; Tonia Biggs, 665-8551; Jim Brown, 665-3175; Jerry Saunders, 665-6470; Kim Ngo, 665-7158**

EPA RECEIVES DRAFT INFORMATION FROM LOOP: EPA met with LOOP representatives on September 5, 2017, to discuss the EPA/LDEQ draft joint permit. LOOP agreed to provide EPA with information regarding their brine discharge and operations, results of the in-situ monitoring that is conducted every 5 years, as well as issues with the method used to conduct biomonitoring. LOOP provided a draft discussion letter on October 5, 2017 on WET and information on their brine discharge. EPA plans on providing feedback on their draft discussion document by Friday, October 13, 2017. **Stacey Dwyer, 665-6729; Silvia Bogdan, 665-2749**

STREAM SEGMENTS FOR AMENDED TECHNICAL SUPPORT DOCUMENT EPA ACTION ON NEW MEXICO WATER QUALITY STANDARDS FOR SURFACE WATERS 2013 REVISIONS, OCTOBER 6, 2017: A member of the Surface Water Team worked with Russell Nelson of the Ecosystems Protection Branch, Watershed Management Section to create stream segments in New Mexico in order to evaluate 2013 Water Quality Standards revisions. Stream segments in New Mexico, which were identified as needing to be evaluated, were delineated using NHD High Resolution

segments, USGS 1:24K Topographic maps, Google Maps, and USGS Cached Hydrography. These extracted segments were then dissolved into a single geospatial unit for further analysis. In all, 28 segments were created using this process for further analysis in US Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPAC) application. The application automates the process of providing Endangered and Threatened species information for any given location, and has an option to request an official letter with this information. The IPAC review for these sites will take place at a later date. https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/ **Bob Kirkland, 665-6798**

EPA HEADQUARTERS HOSTS STATE REVOLVING FUND FINANCIAL ANALYST TRAINING IN REGION 5 OCTOBER 17-19, 2017: EPA Headquarters Office of Water representing the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) will host Financial Analyst training in the EPA Region 5 office in Chicago, IL. CWSRF and DWSRF staff in all ten EPA regions nationwide were invited to attend. Three Financial Analysts from EPA Region 6's Community Infrastructure Section (6WQ-AP) will attend the training. The two-and-a-half-day training will cover a number of financial topics that are reviewed and discussed with the SRF state agencies when doing the required oversight of the CWSRF and DWSRF programs. Thorough financial oversight is performed in order to assist State partners in the financial management of their SRF programs and to ensure the timely and expeditious use of the federal capitalization grants and the financial health of the SRF funds. **Miriam Varnado 665-7171; Tyrone Hoskins 665-7535; Ruben Camacho 665-7599**