

For immediate release
August 17, 2007

USIBWC PUBLIC MEETING AUG. 30 IN IMPERIAL BEACH

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) announces a public meeting August 30 at 6:00 p.m. at the City of Imperial Beach Dempsey Holder Safety Center, 950 Ocean Lane, Imperial Beach, CA 91932.

The meeting will begin with a public hearing on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Draft PEIS) for the Tijuana River Flood Control Project operated by the USIBWC in southern San Diego County. The Draft PEIS analyzes potential environmental impacts of future flood control project improvements under consideration over the next 20 years.

The Draft PEIS can be viewed online at:

<http://www.ibwc.state.gov/Files/TijuanaRiverDraftPEIS.pdf>

Hard copies are also available for inspection and review at the USIBWC San Diego Field Office, 2225 Dairy Mart Road, San Ysidro, CA 92173 and the San Diego Central Library, 820 E Street, San Diego, CA 92101.

Upon conclusion of the public hearing, the USIBWC Citizens' Forum will conduct an informational meeting. The purpose of the Forum is to promote the exchange of information between the USIBWC and the community about the Commission's projects and related issues in the area.

The meeting will feature a presentation about plans for additional monitoring of ocean water quality in the South Bay area. Dr. Eric Terrill of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography will describe the Phase 2 Monitoring Study that CH2MHill, in conjunction with Scripps and the

University of Southern California, is currently conducting for the USIBWC to enhance regional oceanographic monitoring efforts. A prioritized list of monitoring and data collection activities was identified that addressed the following goals: a) Identify and track plumes from the South Bay Ocean Outfall, the pipe that discharges effluent from the SBIWTP and the City of San Diego's South Bay Water Reclamation Plant into the ocean 3.5 miles offshore; b) Characterize land-based sources of water pollution with a focus on the Tijuana River; and c) Identify the regional oceanographic conditions (such as ocean currents) which lead to high bacteria on South Bay beaches. Scientists will collect data for one year and prepare a report of the findings. Dr. Terrill will discuss the scope of work and schedule for the Phase 2 Monitoring Study.

In other business, Toribio Cueva, Assistant Director of the Sanitation Department, State Public Services Commission of Tijuana (CESPT), will discuss the status of wastewater infrastructure in Tijuana. Various projects are planned or underway to expand sanitation service in the community.

A complete agenda is attached. The event is free and the public is encouraged to attend. Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting can call 619-662-7600 or e-mail sallyspener@ibwc.state.gov.

For more information:

Sally Spener
915-832-4175

**USIBWC PUBLIC HEARING AND
CITIZENS' FORUM MEETING
Thursday, August 30, 2007
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
City of Imperial Beach Dempsey Holder Safety Center
950 Ocean Lane
Imperial Beach, CA 91932**

Agenda

Public Hearing on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Tijuana River Flood Control Project

- Welcome and Introductions
 - Objective
 - Hearing organization
- Presentation
 - Programmatic EIS Description
 - Alternatives Development
 - Flood Control Project Evaluation
- Public Comment
- Closing Remarks

USIBWC Citizens' Forum Meeting

- Welcome and Introductions - Carlos Peña, Co-Chair, USIBWC
- Phase 2 Ocean Monitoring Study - Dr. Eric Terrill, Chief Scientist for the San Diego Ocean Observing System, Scripps Institution of Oceanography
- Sanitation Projects in Tijuana – Toribio Cueva, Assistant Director of the Sanitation Department, State Public Services Commission of Tijuana (CESPT)
- Public Comment
- Suggested Future Agenda Items/Board Discussion

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 619-662-7600 or e-mail sallyspener@ibwc.state.gov.