

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Directors (Board) of the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) during the Regular Meeting of the Board starting at **8:00 a.m. on May 22, 2018.**

The public hearing will be held at CVWD's Coachella Office Forbes Auditorium located at **51501 Tyler Street in Coachella.** The hearing will be held in compliance with Section 54954.6 of the California Government Code.

The purpose of the May 22, 2018, public hearing is to consider the proposed RAC increases effective July 1, 2018, to be levied by the Board upon groundwater Producers within the Areas of Benefit as authorized by Chapter 7, Sections 31630 through 31639 of the State Water Code. The Board will hear testimony from the public regarding the proposed Replenishment Assessment Charges (RACs) for the following replenishment assessment programs:

Proposed RAC for the East Whitewater River Subbasin Area of Benefit effective July 1, 2018.

Proposed RAC for the West Whitewater River Subbasin Area of Benefit effective July 1, 2018.

Proposed RAC for the Mission Creek Subbasin Area of Benefit effective July 1, 2018.

Proposition 218 notices were mailed on March 31, 2016, notifying recipients of proposed increases in the West Whitewater River Subbasin and Mission Creek Subbasin Areas of Benefit to become effective on July 1 of five consecutive years, 2016 through 2020. Notices and protest forms were mailed to record owners of property, customers of record, and Producers liable for the payment of the RAC in the West Whitewater River Subbasin and Mission Creek Subbasin Areas of Benefit. A majority protest was not received, therefore allowing the Board to authorize RAC increases during those years for those two Areas of Benefit.

Proposition 218 notices were mailed on April 5, 2018, notifying recipients of proposed RAC increases in the East Whitewater River Subbasin Area of Benefit to become effective on July 1 of five consecutive years, 2018 through 2022, and to provide directions for submitting written protests. Notices were mailed to record owners of property, customers of record, and Producers liable for the payment of the RAC in the East Whitewater River Subbasin Area of Benefit. At the close of the public hearing, the Board will tally all protests to determine if the Board is authorized to allow RAC increases for this Area of Benefit.

The Areas of Benefit are described as follows:

West Whitewater River Subbasin Area of Benefit.

That western portion of the Whitewater River Subbasin within the boundaries of CVWD, bounded on the east beginning at the north end of Jefferson Street, south to Avenue 40, west to Adams Street, south along the north-south township line to Fred Waring Drive (Avenue 44), west to Washington Street, south to the Santa Rosa Mountains near Highway 111. The area’s southern boundary continues westerly along the foothills of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains to the western boundary at Whitewater. The northern boundary continues from Whitewater easterly to the San Andreas Fault and across the Indio Hills to the point of beginning.

Mission Creek Subbasin Area of Benefit.

That portion of the Mission Creek Subbasin situated within the service area boundary of CVWD, bounded on the east beginning approximately one-eighth mile west of the center of Section 10, Township 3 South, Range 5 East, San Bernardino Base Meridian; thence southeasterly along the trace of the Mission Creek Fault and the Northern San Andreas Fault, to the intersection of the Southern San Andreas Fault; thence northwesterly, along the Southern San Andreas Fault, to the intersection of Avenue 20 and Palm Drive; thence north along Palm Drive to Avenue 18; thence west along Avenue 18 to Little Morongo Road; thence north along the west section line of Section 12, Township 3 South, Range 4 East, to Avenue 16; thence east along the north section line of said Section 12 to the northeast corner of the section; thence south along the east section line of said Section 12 to the east-west midsection line, which is Dillon Road; thence east along Dillon Road to the point of beginning.

East Whitewater River Subbasin Area of Benefit.

That eastern portion of the Whitewater River Subbasin within the boundaries of CVWD, beginning at the northerly extension of Jefferson Street located on the San Andreas Fault, south to Avenue 40, west to Adams Street, south to Fred Waring Drive (Avenue 44), west to Washington Street, south to the Santa Rosa Mountains near Point Happy. The area’s western boundary continues south along the foothills of the Santa Rosa Mountains to the southwest corner of Section 25, Township 7 South, Range 7 East, thence to the southwest corner of Section 36, Township 8 South, Range 8 East, which is approximately 3 miles due west of Travertine Rock. The boundary continues east along the Riverside County line to the southeast corner of Section 34, Township 8 South, Range 9 East, which is inundated by the Salton Sea. The boundary continues northeasterly across the Salton Sea to the northeast corner of Section 34, Township 7 South, Range 10 East, thence northwesterly along the San Andreas Fault to the point of beginning.

Proposed RACs for production located within the following Areas of Benefit are:

East Whitewater River Subbasin Area of Benefit:

Beginning July 1, 2018.....\$73.00 per acre-foot

West Whitewater River Subbasin Area of Benefit:

Beginning July 1, 2018.....\$172.56 per acre-foot

Mission Creek Subbasin Area of Benefit:

Beginning July 1, 2018.....\$149.07 per acre-foot

For the East Whitewater River Subbasin Area of Benefit, this entails a 10.6% increase from the current RAC of \$66.00 per acre-foot. The RAC increases by \$7.00 to \$73.00 per acre-foot on July 1, 2018.

For the West Whitewater River Subbasin Area of Benefit, this entails a 20% increase from the current RAC of \$143.80 per acre-foot. The RAC increases by \$28.76 to \$172.56 per acre-foot on July 1, 2018.

For the Mission Creek Subbasin Area of Benefit, this entails a 10% increase from the current RAC of \$135.52 per acre-foot. The RAC increases by \$13.55 to \$149.07 per acre-foot on July 1, 2018.

The primary reasons for the proposed increases in the West Whitewater River Subbasin Area of Benefit are increased State Water Project costs, increased Supplemental Water costs, and implementation of in-lieu groundwater replenishment programs. The primary reasons for the proposed increase in the Mission Creek Subbasin Area of Benefit are increased State Water Project costs and increased Supplemental Water costs. Because much of the costs of constructing and operating groundwater replenishment facilities in eastern Coachella Valley have been deferred, RAC increases are needed to ensure the charges are equitable and represent what it costs to deliver groundwater replenishment to the East Whitewater River Subbasin Area of Benefit.

The levying of the RAC by CVWD is for the purpose of importing water and recharging the groundwater basin underlying the Areas of Benefit. All persons or entities producing more than 25 acre-feet of water in any year in an Area of Benefit are considered Producers and will be charged on the basis of acre feet produced.

Each Producer in an Area of Benefit is required to measure groundwater production and provide CVWD a groundwater production statement along with the RAC payment each month. The Producer also has the option to enter into an Agreement to allow CVWD staff to measure groundwater production and send the Producer an invoice each month.

Beginning April 24, 2018, copies of the 2018-2019 Engineer's Reports on Water Supply and Replenishment Assessment for the three Areas of Benefit regarding the necessity of levying the RACs will be available for inspection in the Engineering Department located at CVWD's Steve Robbins Administration Building in Palm Desert, or on CVWD's website at www.cvwd.org.

Additional information may also be obtained by calling the offices of CVWD at (760) 398-2661, extension 2389, during regular working hours, which are from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Date: April 05, 2018.

/s/ Sylvia Bermudez
Sylvia Bermudez, Clerk of the Board
COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT