RIO GRANDE CITIZENS FORUM

BACKGROUND

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) is seeking applications from individuals interested in serving on the Board for the Rio Grande Citizens Forum (CF), a group established to promote the exchange of information regarding USIBWC activities between Percha Dam, NM and Ft. Quitman, TX. All CF meetings are open to the public and act as a focal point for the exchange of information between the USIBWC and the local community regarding ongoing and future USIBWC projects in the area and related matters. The CF is intended to bring together community members, enabling the early and continued two-way flow of information, concerns, values, and needs between the USIBWC and the general public, environmentalists, irrigators, government agencies, municipalities, etc. It is expected that the CF Board will consist of about ten volunteer members representing diverse interests. The Board will meet regularly in the greater El Paso, TX, Las Cruces, NM area, approximately four times per year, to discuss plans and issues related to ongoing and future USIBWC projects.

HOW TO BECOME A RIO GRANDE CITIZENS FORUM MEMBER

Application forms should be submitted by 14 November 2013.

Board members to the CF will be selected by the USIBWC in consideration of the agency's interest in encouraging participation by diverse interests. The first meeting of the new board is scheduled for 14 January 2014.

Please return your completed application to:

Sally Spener, USIBWC, 4171 N. Mesa, C-100, El Paso, TX 79902
or fax: 915.875.1384

If you have any questions, please contact Sally Spener at 915-832-4175 or sally.spener@ibwc.gov. Additional information about the USIBWC is available at www.ibwc.gov

APPLICATION FORM

RIO GRANDE CITIZENS FORUM BOARD
INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION
UNITED STATES SECTION

Name		
Organization		
Street/City/State/Zip		E-Mail
Telephone, Daytime *(Numbers Only)*	Telephone, Cell *(Numbers Only)*	Fax *(Numbers Only)*

PART I: INTERESTS AND CONCERNS

This portion of the form will give the USIBWC a more accurate idea of your interests and concerns regarding USIBWC activities in southern New Mexico and West Texas. You may attach additional sheets.

1. Are you affiliated with any group? If so, please list the group(s) and any positions held.

2. Do you have any interests in or concerns about specific USIBWC activities? If so, please elaborate.

PART II: PARTICIPATION IN THE CITIZENS FORUM

Board members of the Citizens Forum are expected to serve a 2-year term and to attend all meetings. Members who miss two or more consecutive meetings may be asked to resign. Duties and responsibilities may include reviewing and commenting on technical documents and materials associated with USIBWC activities in the project area. Board members will be expected to be available to the public to facilitate the exchange of information and/or concerns between the community and the Forum. Participation in the Citizens Forum is strictly on a volunteer basis and members will not be financially compensated. Board members will be chosen by the USIBWC and will be representative of the diverse interests of the community.

Those who do not serve directly on the Citizens Forum Board may still participate in activities. Interested members of the community will be included on the mailing list and will be invited to attend all Forum meetings, which are open to the public. The public will be able to comment at the Forum meetings during a time set aside for public comments and input.

NOTE: Priority for Citizens Forum Board membership will be given to local residents, groups or organizations which could be directly affected by USIBWC activities.

1. Please state why you would like to be considered for Rio Grande Citizens Forum Board membership.

2. Describe your experience working as a member of a diverse group with common goals.

3. Non-USIBWC members of the Forum Board will select a community co-chairperson. Please indicate if you are interested in being the community co-chairperson by checking on the line below.

☐ Yes, I would like to be considered.

4. If you responded yes to question 3, please state why you would be interested in being the community co-chairperson.

5. By submitting this signed application, you:

- are aware that being a Citizens Forum Board member will involve a set time commitment;
- understand that being a Citizens Forum Board member entails a willingness to work cooperatively with other members to ensure the efficient and effective use of time;
- understand that serving on the Citizens Forum Board will be voluntary and that members will not receive compensation for this service; and,
- understand the following Privacy Act information regarding providing your name, address and telephone number for this survey:

PRIVACY ACT NOTICE

Authority: 5 USC § 552a and 22 USC § 277

Principal Purpose: To identify members of the local community who are interested in participation in the Rio Grande Citizens Forum Board.

Routine Uses: The requested information will be used to develop a list of interested persons from which the community members of the Citizens Forum Board will be selected. The information will also be used by the USIBWC to contact the individuals who are selected and to notify applicants of upcoming meetings and activities of the Citizens Forum. Disclosure of the requested information is voluntary. Failure to provide all the requested information may prevent selection to the Citizens Forum Board.

Applicant Signature	Date

Please return the completed and signed form to:

Sally Spener
USIBWC
4171 N. Mesa Street, C-100
El Paso, TX 79902
sally.spener@ibwc.gov
Fax: 915.875.1384

Deadline is 14 November 2013