



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
March 10, 2014

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES DIRECTOR TO SPEAK AT MARCH 20 PUBLIC MEETING IN RIO RICO

Michael J. Lacey, Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR), will be the featured speaker at the next public meeting of the Southeast Arizona Citizens Forum, sponsored by the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC). The meeting will take place Thursday, March 20, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., in the Mariposa Room of the Esplendor Resort, 1069 Camino Caralampi in Rio Rico, Arizona.

Mr. Lacey will give a presentation on a new state water report, *Arizona's Next Century: A Strategic Vision for Water Supply Sustainability*, which provides a comprehensive water supply and demand analysis for Arizona. Recent studies have identified the potential for a long-term imbalance between available water supplies and projected water demand over the next 100 years if no action is taken. The Strategic Vision creates the framework for the development of potential strategies to address the projected imbalances. Over the next 25 to 100 years, Arizona will need to identify and develop additional water supplies to meet projected growing water demands. This involves water supply acquisition and importation for some areas of the state.

Governor Jan Brewer appointed Lacey to serve as the new Director of ADWR in February 2014. He had been the Department's Deputy Director since 2011, serving as the chief operating officer overseeing the protection and administration of water rights and water supplies. Before joining ADWR, he was a

business owner and consulting hydrologist for 22 years, assisting private and public sector clients comply with ADWR's regulatory programs.

In other business, USIBWC Engineer Jesus Heredia will provide an update to the Citizens Forum on the continuing efforts to rehabilitate the International Outfall Interceptor (IOI), the pipe that conveys wastewater from Nogales, Sonora and Nogales, Arizona to the Nogales International Wastewater Treatment Plant in Rio Rico, Arizona. An earlier report developed by Brown and Caldwell and funded by the Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC) indicated that due to lack of system maintenance, increasing demand, and the infrastructure's service life, the IOI requires rehabilitation or possible replacement of portions. The USIBWC, in collaboration with the City of Nogales, Arizona, recently prepared a Scope of Work to contract an engineering firm to design and develop the construction plans for the rehabilitation of the IOI based on the previous report and existing conditions. The design work will cover the rehabilitation efforts for over 46,600 linear feet of infrastructure, including such items as surveying, engineering studies, and stakeholder coordination efforts. The contract is expected to be awarded by the second quarter of 2014.

The International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, is responsible for applying the boundary and water treaties between the two countries. The purpose of the Southeast Arizona Citizens Forum is to promote the exchange of information between the USIBWC and the community regarding Commission projects and related activities in Pima, Cochise, and Santa Cruz Counties, Arizona.

A complete meeting agenda follows. Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting may contact the USIBWC at 520-281-1832 or sally.spener@ibwc.gov.

For more information:

Sally Spener
sally.spener@ibwc.gov
915-832-4175

SOUTHEAST ARIZONA CITIZENS FORUM

Thursday, March 20, 2014

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Esplendor Resort, Mariposa Room

1069 Camino Caralampi

Rio Rico, AZ 85648-1610

Agenda

- Call to Order – John Light, Citizens Forum Co-Chair
- Arizona's Next Century: A Strategic Vision for Water Supply Sustainability
– Michael J. Lacey, Director, and Jeff Tannler, Active Management Area
Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources
- Nogales International Outfall Interceptor, Efforts to Improve the
International Wastewater Pipe – Jesus Heredia, Engineer, USIBWC
- Public Comment
- Board Discussion
- Suggested Future Agenda Items

***Directions:** From I-19, take Exit #17 Rio Rico Drive/Yavapai Drive. Go west on Rio Rico/Yavapai. Make a left turn onto Camino Caralampi. Esplendor Resort is up the hill on the right.

If you have a disability that you wish to self-identify confidentially that requires accommodation, please advise us ahead of time at 520-281-1832 or sally.spener@ibwc.gov.