

For immediate release
May 27, 2004

NEW BOARD MEMBERS TO BE INSTALLED AT JUNE CITIZENS' FORUM MEETING

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) announces a public meeting of the USIBWC Citizens' Forum at 6:00 p.m. on June 8 at the San Ysidro High School Cafeteria, 5353 Airway Drive, San Diego, California 92154. 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.

This will be the first meeting for new board members who were recently appointed to two-year terms by USIBWC Commissioner Arturo Q. Duran. The new board members are:

- Cindy Gompper-Graves, Executive Director, South County Economic Development Council
- Jonathan Hardy, District Representative, Office of Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny
- Kenneth Mitchell, retired civilian public affairs specialist for the Navy
- Oscar Romo, Coastal Training Program Coordinator, Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve
- Rick Van Schoik, Managing Director, Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy, San Diego State University
- Lynn Young, retired water district manager

Additionally, the USIBWC renewed the appointments of these incumbent board members whose terms had expired:

- George Gonzalez, attorney
- Jon Jamieson, California Water Environment Association

- Jim Peugh, San Diego Audubon Society, Friends of Famosa Slough
- Teresa Thomas, Southwestern College Professor of Environmental Biology
- Fred Threats, retired Navy officer, lives near USIBWC facilities
- Mayda Winter, Imperial Beach City Council

In other business, the board will hear from Jan Svejksky, President of Ocean Imaging, about results of aerial and satellite imaging of wastewater plumes along the coast. The program monitors the plume from the USIBWC's South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (SBIWTP) ocean outfall, the pipe that discharges treated wastewater into the Pacific Ocean. The imaging reveals the plume's trajectory trends under various oceanic and atmospheric conditions. It also allows observation of nearby shoreline discharge sources such as the Tijuana River and wastewater discharges in Mexico.

Additionally, Mike Wells, Reserve Manager for the Tijuana Estuary/Border Field State Park, will give an update on the status of the park which recently reopened after undergoing various road and flood control improvements. The park is located at the U.S.-Mexico border.

USIBWC Deputy Commissioner Carlos Marin will report on work to provide secondary treatment of wastewater from the SBIWTP. In February, the Commission completed an agreement, Minute No. 311, which provides a framework for implementing the project.

A complete agenda appears below. The agenda is also available at <http://www.ibwc.state.gov>. 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:

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USIBWC CITIZENS' FORUM
Tuesday, June 8, 2004, 6:00 p.m.
San Ysidro High School Cafeteria
5353 Airway Drive
San Diego, CA 92154

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Recognition of Outgoing Board Members
- Introduction of New Board Members
- Border Field State Park Update - Mike Wells, Reserve Manager, Tijuana Estuary/Border Field State Park
- Aerial and Satellite Monitoring of the International Wastewater Treatment Plant Outfall – Dr. Jan Svejksky, Ocean Imaging
- Secondary Treatment of Wastewater, Status of Minute 311 Implementation - Carlos Marin, USIBWC Deputy Commissioner
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- Public Comment and Board Discussion

USIBWC CITIZENS' FORUM MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the USIBWC Citizens' Forum Board is to provide an effective exchange of information and ideas between the citizens of the region and the United States International Boundary and Water Commission relating to the current and future management of the relevant trans-boundary water and other environmental resources of the San Diego-Tijuana region. We will strive to represent the concerns of all interested parties in an effort to protect environmental health, promote sustainability, and preserve the economic, ecosystem, cultural resources and the quality of life in our unique habitat and binational region.

Directions: Take I-5 or I-805. Take 905 Freeway East exit. Right on Caliente Avenue. Right on Airway Road.

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