



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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June 29, 2010

Response to United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX review comments, dated June 10, 2010, on the Proposed Revisions to the Nevada Water Quality Regulations NAC 445A.143 (new NAC 445A.1233), Colorado River Salinity Standards.

EPA Comment 1

NDEP proposes to change the wording in NAC 445A.143 to reference "the most current" Review of the Water Quality Standards for Salinity, Colorado River System rather than a specific review. This change will mean that the State will not need to revise NAC 445A.143 each time a new "review is adopted by the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum. No changes to the salinity criteria are proposed. EPA supports this revision.

NDEP Response

Comment noted.

EPA Comment 2

The most recent forum review, the "Review of the Water Quality Standards for Salinity, Colorado River System" includes revised implementation measures which are part of the revised water quality standards and which also require EPA approval as part of our water quality standards approval. We suggest that you include the phrase "and its plan of implementation" in NAC 445A.143 (2) after "Water Quality Standards for Salinity, Colorado River System-. This will ensure that the changes to the implementation measures adopted by the Forum with each review are part of the approved water quality standards.

NDEP Response:

NDEP considers implementation elements outside the purview of water quality standards. Therefore, no changes have been made to petition adjusting NAC 445A.143 (new NAC 445A.1233).