



Established in 1918 as a public agency

## Coachella Valley Water District

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# Notice of Completion / Notice of Availability Chromium-6 Water Treatment Facilities Project Draft Environmental Impact Report

### BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the *Chromium-6 Water Treatment Facilities Project*. The primary objective of the project is to enable CVWD to achieve compliance with the new hexavalent chromium (also called chromium-6) regulation that was promulgated by the State of California and became effective July 1, 2014. Implementation of the project will enable CVWD to continue to meet its top priority of delivering high quality drinking water that meets stringent government standards.

CVWD is proposing an ion exchange treatment plant (IXTP) approach for removing chromium-6 from affected drinking water wells. Ion exchange is a water treatment method where one or more undesirable constituents are removed from the water by exchange with another constituent. Two types of IXTPs, using ion exchange resins, will be used for the chromium-6 project: Strong Base Anion Exchange (SBA) and Weak Base Anion Exchange (WBA). New SBA treatment facilities would be installed at 23 existing well sites located throughout the CVWD service area. A new Central Resin Regeneration Facility would also be constructed adjacent to CVWD's existing Water Reclamation Plant 4 site to process the SBA resin collected from each of these sites. WBA treatment has been identified for wells that occur in two distinct clusters within the CVWD service area. Raw water would be pumped from these existing wells and conveyed via new pipelines to two new treatment facilities using WBA resin, one for each cluster of wells. The impacted wells are located in or adjacent to the communities of Desert Hot Springs, Rancho Mirage, Palm Desert, La Quinta, and Indio, and the unincorporated community of Thermal. The proposed treatment facilities would be located at sites in Desert Hot Springs and La Quinta, and in unincorporated community of Thermal area of Riverside County. All of the proposed facilities are located within Riverside County.

The public is encouraged to review and comment on the proposed project and the Draft EIR, project alternatives and mitigation measures set forth in the Draft EIR. Pursuant to Public Resources Code 21092.6(a), none of the project facilities would be located on a hazardous waste site enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (Cortese List).

### PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft EIR for the *Chromium-6 Water Treatment Facilities Project* provides background information, detailed description of the project, and describes environmental conditions and consequences of the project. **The 45-day public review period is April 15 - May 31, 2016.** The Draft EIR is available online at [www.cvwd.org](http://www.cvwd.org), as well as, at the following locations: CVWD – Palm Desert & Coachella offices, Indio Library, Desert Hot Springs Public Library, Rancho Mirage Public Library, La Quinta Public Library, Coachella Public Library, Brawley Public Library, and the Palm Desert Public Library.

CVWD will accept written comments on the Draft EIR through May 31, 2016. Written comments should be submitted via email to: [LStowe@cvwd.org](mailto:LStowe@cvwd.org), or mailed to: Mr. Luke Stowe, Environmental Supervisor, Coachella Valley Water District, P.O. Box 1058, Coachella, CA 92236