

**An Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region to Prohibit the Discharge of Waste from Individual Disposal Systems on Parcels One-half Acre or Less that Overlie the Mission Creek Aquifer or Desert Hot Springs Aquifer in Riverside County, if a Sewer System is Available.**

**AMENDMENT**

(Proposed additions are denoted by underlined text, proposed deletions are denoted by ~~strikethrough-text~~)

**Chapter 4, Section II.H (Septic Systems), add the following after the subsection entitled, “Cathedral City Cove – Reports”<sup>1</sup>:**

**Mission Creek or Desert Hot Spring Aquifers**

Effective [insert date of approval by the Office of Administrative Law]:

(1) The discharge of waste from new or existing individual disposal systems on parcels of less than one-half acre that overlie the Mission Creek Aquifer or the Desert Hot Springs Aquifer in Riverside County is prohibited, if a sewer system is available.

(2) For parcels of one-half acre or greater that overlie the Mission Creek Aquifer or the Desert Hot Springs Aquifer in Riverside County, the maximum number of equivalent dwelling units with individual disposal systems shall be two per acre, if a sewer system is available. The discharge of waste from additional new or existing individual disposal systems is prohibited, if a sewer system is available. The term “equivalent dwelling unit” means a building designed to be used as a home by the owner of such building, which shall be the only dwelling located on a parcel of ground with the usual accessory buildings. This definition is from Section 221.0 of the 1997 edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, and any authority interpreting that section shall be relevant in interpreting this prohibition.

If a sewer system becomes available after [insert date of approval by Office of Administrative Law], Prohibitions (1) and (2) in the preceding paragraph shall apply to discharges of waste from all new or existing individual disposal systems on all parcels to which the sewer system becomes available.

A sewer system is “available” if a sewer system, or a building connected to a sewer system, is within 200 feet of the existing or proposed dwelling unit, in accordance with Section 713.4 of the 1997 edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials.

State Water Resources Control Board awarded two grants to Mission Springs Water District for a total of \$2,800,000 for the elimination of disposal systems (septic tanks) on parcels less than one-half acre overlying the Desert Hot Springs and Mission Creek Aquifers if sewer is available. Pursuant to Section 13225 of the Water Code, by [1 year following State Board approval of this Basin Plan Amendment] the Mission Springs Water District shall submit to the Regional Board a report describing the status of sewer system availability to affected parcels.

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<sup>1</sup> The Cathedral Cove language was adopted by the Regional Board on November 13, 2002 in Resolution No. R7-2002-0184, approved by the State Board on May 21, 2003, and approved by the Office of Administrative Law on July 15, 2003.