

WP&S Committee

Item 9-1

Subject: Overview of proposed International Boundary and Water Commission Minute and related agreements

Purpose: To inform the Water Planning and Stewardship Committee of: a draft International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) Minute which build on areas of binational cooperation achieved in IBWC Minute No. 319; and related agreements.

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Summary

Representatives of the United States and Mexico, in consultation with representatives of the Colorado River Basin states, have developed a draft Minute that would build on areas of binational cooperation achieved in IBWC Minute No. 319. Metropolitan and other water agencies would need to approve several agreements to allow full implementation of the new Minute.



Overview of proposed IBWC Minute and related agreements

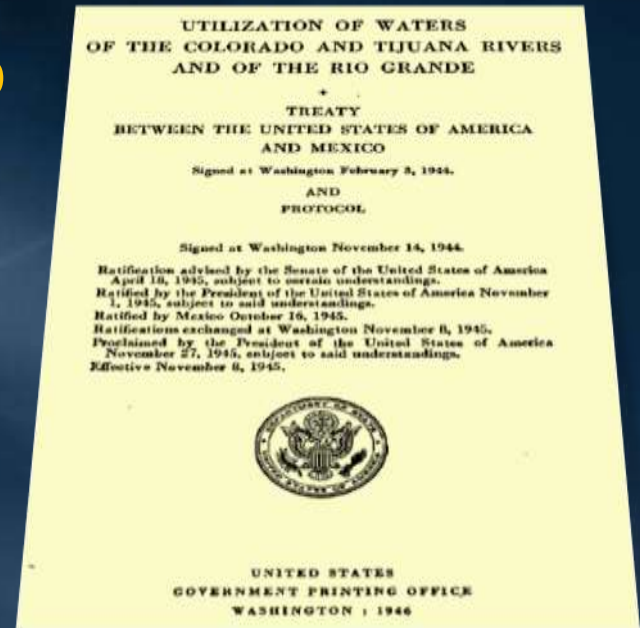
Water Planning and Stewardship Committee

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June 12, 2017

Background

- 1944 Water Treaty
 - 1.5 maf/yr delivery to Mexico
 - 0.2 maf/yr surplus when available
 - Deliveries reduced in extraordinary drought
 - Specifies timing and location of delivery



Background (Cont.)

- Key IBWC Minutes
 - No. 242—solution to problem of salinity
 - No. 317—conceptual framework for Colorado River cooperative actions
 - No. 318—assistance to Mexico due to Mexicali Valley earthquake
 - No. 319—interim cooperative measures through December 31, 2017
 - No. 322—emergency delivery for Tijuana



Minute 319 Interim Measures

- Distribution of flows under:
 - High elevation reservoir conditions
 - Low elevation reservoir conditions
- Intentionally Created Mexican Allocation (ICMA)
- Salinity
- Water for the environment and ICMA/ICS exchange pilot program
- International projects



Successor Minute to Minute 319

- United States and Mexico have developed a draft Minute 32x
 - Would be in effect through December 31, 2026
 - Builds on existing shortage sharing agreements
 - Supports conservation and environmental projects in Mexico
 - U.S. agencies would fund projects in exchange for portion of water conserved



Next Steps

- U.S. and Mexico to finalize Minute
- U.S. agencies to evaluate participation in conservation project
- Finalize implementing agreements
- Seek Board authorization
- Implement agreements by the end of 2017

