

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION  
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

Minute No. 274

Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua  
April 15, 1987JOINT PROJECT FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF  
THE WATERS OF THE NEW RIVER AT  
CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA - MEXICALI, BAJA CALIFORNIA

The Commission met in the offices of the Mexican Section in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua at 10:00 a.m., on April 15, 1987, to consider options presented by authorities of the Government of the State of Baja California, for a jointly funded project of sanitation works that would contribute to improving the quality of the waters of the New River that cross the international boundary at Calexico, California - Mexicali, Baja California, utilizing funds to be provided in equal parts by the Governments of the United States and Mexico.

The Commission referred to Minute No. 264, "Recommendations For Solution of the New River Border Sanitation Problem at Calexico, California - Mexicali, Baja California Norte", dated August 26, 1980, approved by the two Governments, in which, "The Commissioners agreed on the need for providing sufficient capacity in the proposed works and to take the necessary measures for their future expansion to meet the needs of the rapid growth of the city of Mexicali".

The Commissioners noted that the Government of the State of Baja California considers that the present population of the city of Mexicali, Baja California, estimated at 538,000 inhabitants, will increase to 556,000 inhabitants in 1988, with an estimated average discharge of 38 million gallons per day (1,647 liters per second) to be disposed by the city's sanitation system, and that by the year 2000 the population of that city could be about 1,000,000 inhabitants, of which 556,000 inhabitants would be within the present city limits, in an area referred to as Mexicali I, and the remaining 446,000 inhabitants will be in an area of future growth referred to as Mexicali II.

The Commissioners then noted, that according to the information provided by the Government of the State of Baja California, the capacity of Pumping Plant No. 1 could be exceeded in the near future and that Pumping Plant No. 2, as well as the pumping plant along the right bank of the New River opposite Pumping Plant No. 2, do not have standby equipment, nor is there adequate equipment available for a necessary preventative maintenance of the city's sanitary system collector. They also made note that the Government of the State of Baja California has considered options for increasing the capacity and improving the efficiency of its pumping plants and collectors in Mexicali I, that presently convey the city's wastewaters to the existing oxidation lagoons located southwest of Mexicali, Baja California.

The Commissioners then made note of the provisions of Minute No. 261, "Recommendations for the Solution To the Border Sanitation Problems", dated September 24, 1979, approved by the two Governments, which provides in Point No. 6: "That in each case where the approved course of action provides that a border sanitation problem be jointly corrected by the two Governments, the Commission develop the plans and designs for the works necessary therefor, as well as the division of work and cost between the two countries, submit them for approval of the two Governments, and upon such approval, each Government through its Section of the Commission proceed to carry out the construction, operation and maintenance, with the greatest speed and timeliness possible." The Commissioners noted that the Governments of the United States and Mexico are willing to jointly fund an amount equivalent to \$1,200,000 (One Million, Two Hundred Thousand, and 00/100, dollars), U.S. currency for sanitation works that would contribute to improving the quality of waters of the New River that cross the international boundary at Calexico, California - Mexicali, Baja California.

The Commissioners considered that funds provided by the Governments of the United States and Mexico should be used in a project that would adhere to the following criteria: (a) that the measures result in a significant improvement in New River quality at the boundary; (b) that the cost of measures be shared equally between the United States and Mexico; and (c) that the measures be under the supervision of the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico.

The Commission noted that the Principal Engineers of the United States and Mexican Sections had reviewed the alternatives considered by the Government of the State of Baja California for improvement of the New River water quality, and have prepared technical bases for a project utilizing the funds equivalent to \$1,200,000, U.S. currency. The Commissioners then reviewed the "Joint Report of Engineers Proposing a Technical Basis For Jointly Funded New River Water Quality Improvement Measures in Mexicali, Baja California", signed by United States Section Principal Engineer George R. Baumli, and Mexican Engineer Luis Guzman del Castillo, dated February 9, 1987, which is attached and forms a part of this Minute and noted that the recommendations, below, adhere to the Commission's criteria: (a) construction of Pumping Plant No. 1A, (b) acquisition of two standby pumps and motors for Pumping Plant No. 2 and one for the right bank pumping plant opposite Pumping Plant No. 2, and (c) acquisition of sewer line cleaning equipment. The Commissioners noted that such measures would prevent discharge into the New River of up to an estimated 19.8 million gallons per day (870 liters per second) of untreated sewage to provide an improvement to the quality of the waters of the New River that cross the international boundary.

The Commissioners noted the information of the Government of the State of Baja California, that a program will be carried out for preventative maintenance of the collectors and pumping stations of the Mexicali, Baja California sanitary system.

The Commissioners then noted that the three features of the jointly funded project are expected to be financed equally by the two Governments. In the event that the cost of such features were to exceed \$1,200,000, U.S. currency, the Mexican Government will assure their completion at its expense.

The Commissioners agreed that the joint funding, equivalent to \$1,200,000, U.S. currency, be made up of \$600,000 U.S. currency, provided by the Government of the United States, and \$420,674,360.00 (Four Hundred Twenty Million, Six Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand, Three Hundred Sixty, and 00/100, pesos), Mexican currency (\$521,863.75 U.S. currency, at the rate of exchange of 806.10 pesos per dollar prevailing October 31, 1986), plus \$78,136.25, U.S. currency provided by the Government of Mexico. The Commissioners agreed that the funds provided by the United States Government could be disbursed through direct payment by the United States Section, with the approval of the Commissioners, for equipment and materials required by the Government of the State of Baja California to carry out the features considered in the jointly funded project and that funds provided by the Government of Mexico could be disbursed by execution of construction work and acquisition of equipment and materials in addition to those provided by the United States Government, necessary to complete the features of this project.

The Commissioners considered it necessary that the Government of the State of Baja California, which is responsible for carrying out the features of the jointly funded project, deliver to the Mexican Section for evaluation by the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, monthly reports on the progress of construction, and monthly reports on all disbursements made with respect to such project, so that upon completion the Commissioners may make a joint inspection and approve a final accounting of disbursements made. They further considered it appropriate that representatives of the two Sections of the Commission make joint inspections, as necessary, to supervise the different features of the jointly funded project.

The Commissioners then reviewed the joint program for monitoring the quality of the waters of the New River at the international boundary established in Minute No. 264, and considered it adequate for the purpose of evaluating improvements in the quality of the New River waters resulting from the proposed jointly funded project.

Accordingly, the Commission agreed to submit for the approval of the two Governments, the following recommendation:

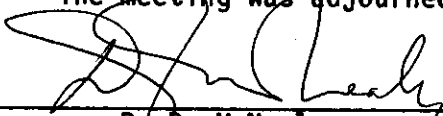
1. That the United States and Mexico, through their respective Sections of the Commission and under its supervision, utilizing funds to be provided in equal parts by the United States and Mexican Government, equivalent to \$1,200,000, U.S. currency, participate in a jointly funded project that will contribute to improving the quality of the waters of the New River that cross the international boundary at Calexico, California - Mexicali, Baja California to consist of the three features: (a) construction of Pumping Plant No. 1A; (b) acquisition of two standby


pumps and motors for Pumping Plant No. 2 and one for the right bank pumping plant, opposite Pumping Plant No. 2; and (c) acquisition of sewer line cleaning equipment, recommended in the "Joint Report Of the Engineers Proposing A Technical Basis For Jointly Funded New River Water Quality Improvement Measures in Mexicali, Baja California," dated February 9, 1987, which is approved and forms part of this Minute.


2. That in the event that the cost of the features considered in the jointly funded project exceed the \$1,200,000, U.S. currency, the Government of Mexico at its expense assure completion of the three features.
3. That upon completion of the features considered in the jointly funded project, the Government of Mexico through the Government of the State of Baja California operate and maintain the constructed works, and carry out the preventative maintenance program for the collectors and pumping plants.
4. That the funds provided by the United States Government could be disbursed through direct payment by the United States Section, with the approval of the Commissioners, for equipment and materials required by the Government of the State of Baja California to carry out the three features considered in the jointly funded project; and that the funds provided by the Government of Mexico could be disbursed by execution of construction works and acquisition of equipment and materials, additional to those provided by the Government of the United States, to carry out the three features considered in this project.
5. That the Government of the State of Baja California which is responsible for carrying out the features of the jointly funded project, deliver to the Mexican Section, for evaluation by the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, monthly reports on the progress of construction and monthly reports on all disbursements made with respect to such project, and that upon completion the Commissioners make a joint inspection and approve a final accounting of disbursements made.
6. That representatives of the two Sections of the Commission make joint periodic inspections as necessary to supervise the different features of the jointly funded project.
7. That the joint program for monitoring the quality of the waters of the New River at the international boundary established in Minute No. 264, is adequate for the purpose of evaluating improvements in the quality of the New River waters resulting from the proposed jointly funded project.
8. That construction, operation and maintenance of the works referred to by this recommendation, shall not confer upon either of the two countries any rights of property or of jurisdiction over any part of the territory of the other.

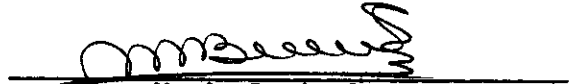
9. That this Minute require the specific approval of the two Governments.

The meeting was adjourned.

  
D.D. McNealy  
Acting U.S. Commissioner

  
Carlos Santibanez Mata  
Mexican Commissioner

  
Manuel R. Ybarra  
U.S. Secretary

  
Mario Bucio Cruz  
Mexican Secretary