CLEAN WATER COALITION SYSTEMS CONVEYANCE AND OPERATIONS PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

FINAL

OCTOBER 2006

VOLUME I

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
LAKE MEAD RECREATION AREA

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
LOWER COLORADO REGION

08058-AM-06

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

LAKE MEAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
601 NEVADA WAY
BOULDER CITY, NEVADA 89005

IN REPLY REFER TO:

LAME 3031 (LAME-RM)

October 20, 2006

Dear Reader:

The National Park Service and Bureau of Reclamation have prepared the attached Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). This document describes and analyzes the potential environmental impacts of five alternatives for the Clean Water Coalition's Systems Conveyance and Operations Program (SCOP). The FEIS has been revised based on comments received from October 2005 through January 2006. The alternatives analyzed in the FEIS include the Boulder Islands North Alternative, Boulder Islands South Alternative, Las Vegas Bay Alternative, Process Improvements Alternative, and the No Action Alternative. The Boulder Islands North Alternative has been selected as the environmentally preferred alternative. This has been noted in the FEIS. The reasons for this selection have been documented in the FEIS.

The pipeline alternatives have been revised to limit the total phosphorus loading discharged to Lake Mead and the Las Vegas Wash to not exceed the current wasteload allocation of 334 pounds per day on an average annual basis during ordinary conditions. In addition, details regarding the Boulder Basin Adaptive Management Plan have been included in the description of the pipeline alternatives.

The Process Improvements Alternative has been added to the FEIS. Although the Process Improvements Alternative meets the definition of 'No Action' described in Council on Environmental Quality's Forty Questions, and is considered an extension of the No Action Alternative, it is analyzed and presented in this EIS as a separate alternative at the request of the public.

Additions to the FEIS resulting from public comments, also include sections addressing the potential impacts to downstream users; a more extensive review of the studies and literature that are available regarding endocrine disrupting chemicals and pharmaceuticals and personal care products; a discussion of the treatment capabilities of the plants and the effectiveness in removal of these substances; and a description of the destratification of Lake Mead and its effect on water quality.

The FEIS is provided in two volumes. Volume I contains the main body of the FEIS and Volume II contains the appendices. The public comments and responses to those comments are provided in Appendix L of Volume II.

The FEIS is available on the internet at http://eis@cleanwatercoalition.com and http://www.nps.gov/lame/parkmgmt/docs.html. Copies, including compact disks, of the FEIS are also available upon written request to the SCOP EIS Project Manager, PBS&J, 2270 Corporate Circle, Suite 100, Henderson, NV 89074 or emailing to eis@cleanwatercoalition.com. The Environmental Protection Agency will publish a Notice of Availability in the Federal Register, which will initiate a 30-day no action period. After this time, the federal agencies will issue a Record of Decision.

Reclamation and NPS appreciate your interest in this project. Should you require additional information, please contact Mr. Michael Boyles, National Park Service, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, at (702) 293-8978 or Mr. Anthony Vigil, Bureau of Reclamation, at (702) 293-8674.

Sincerely,

for William K. Dickinson
Superintendent

Systems Conveyance and Operations Program Environmental Impact Statement

Final

October 2006

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