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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Acting Director

NOTICE OF THE PRELIMINARY DECISION TO ISSUE AN INDIVIDUAL AQUIFER PROTECTION PERMIT SIGNIFICANT AMENDMENT

Public Notice No.: 27-09

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in the Arizona Daily Star**

Pursuant to Arizona Administrative Code, Title 18, Chapter 9, Article 1, the Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality intends to issue a Significant Amendment to an Individual Aquifer Protection Permit to the following applicant(s):

Mr. Jackson Jenkins
Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department
Pima County Wastewater Management Department (PCWMD)
7101 N. Casa Grande Hwy.
Tucson, AZ 85743

Avra Valley Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WWRF)
Significant Amendment to Aquifer Protection Permit No. 100642

The Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department is authorized to operate the Pima County Avra Valley WRF, a 4.0 million gallons per day (mgd) facility. The facility shall produce Class B+ reclaimed water. The treatment process consists of a lift station with submersible pumps with metering, headworks, fine screening and grit removal, two 2.0 mgd oxidation ditches with six surface aerators and four submerged aeration basin mixers in each basin, four secondary clarifiers, sand filtration, chemical feed, and UV disinfection. Chlorination/dechlorination may be used as backup disinfection.

The 4.0 million gallons per day (mgd) facility replaces the current 2.2 mgd facility. Until the new 4.0 mgd plant is built and operational, the facility shall monitor the effluent from the existing plant in accordance with Section 4.2, Table IA and IB. Upon commencement of the operations from the new WWTP, the existing 2.2 mgd plant will be put in temporary cessation.

The effluent is disposed to six percolation ponds or discharged under AZPDES permit # AZ0024121, to the Blackwash spray field, Blackwash or through outfalls # 6 and 7. The effluent may also be stored in an emergency storage basin after the lining of this pond has been certified as per compliance schedule 3.7 or reused under a valid reclaimed water permit. Percolation basins 1 through 5 have been constructed. Percolation basins 6A-6D shall be constructed when effluent flow reaches 2.9 mgd as described in Section 3.7. Percolation basins 6E-6G are not

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included in this permit and therefore no disposal is authorized to them. The flow to the Blackwash spray field comes from the effluent line that also feeds outfalls # 6 and # 7, and the percolation basins.

The lined emergency influent storage basin and the unlined backup emergency overflow basin have been combined to produce a single lined emergency overflow basin. The lined emergency overflow basin may be used to store either influent or effluent. All liquid placed in this basin, whether influent or effluent shall go through the plant for treatment before disposal.

Waste activated sludge (WAS) is thickened and placed into a sludge holding tank and then hauled off-site to the Ina Road WRF or Roger Road WWTF for inclusion in their wastewater streams. One (1) lined sludge drying bed is included in the permit and is also available for emergency use. The existing 2.2 mgd plant shall remain non-operational. The facility may close the plant at a future date or leave it for future use. In case the permittee plans to re-start the existing plant, an amendment will be required to operate the facility according to new facility BADCT (A.A.C.R18-9-B204).

Depth to groundwater at the site is 415 feet below ground surface (bgs) and the direction of groundwater flow is to the north-northwest. The draft permits and related materials are available for public review, with 24 hour notice, Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Records Management Center, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, 1110 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007.

Persons may submit comments or request a public hearing on the proposed action, in writing to Monica Phillips, ADEQ, at 1110 W. Washington Mail Code: 5415B-3, Phoenix, AZ 85007, within thirty (30) days from the date of this notice. The public hearing request must include the reason for such request.