

FORM FOR PETITIONING THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION FOR ADOPTION, FILING AMENDMENTS OR REPEAL OF COMMISSION REGULATIONS

1. Kathy Sertic
Chief Bureau of Water Quality Planning
901 S. Stewart St., Suite 4001
Carson City, Nevada 89701
(775) 687-9443

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Kathy Sertic

2. Government Agency – Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP)
3. NDEP is proposing to make changes to the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) referencing the Colorado Salinity Standards, contained in the NAC 445A.143, and to amend the footnotes for Lake Mead, NAC 445A.195 and Inner Las Vegas Bay, NAC 445A.197. **No changes to the salinity criteria are proposed; only administrative changes will be made to NAC 445A.143, 195, and 197.**

NDEP is proposing to update subsection 2 of NAC 445A.143 to reflect the most recent reference to the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum Recommendations for salinity control of the Colorado River. NDEP is adding the reference to *[the "2005 Review - Water Quality Standards for Salinity, Colorado River System" as presented by the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum]*, and a reference for the weighted annual average being *[for the calendar year]* into NAC 445A.143.

Additional changes involve revising the water quality standards footnotes for Lake Mead (footnote ^d) and Inner Las Vegas Bay (footnote ^e) in NAC 445A.195 and 445A.197, respectively. The language in each footnote is the same and both pertain to the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Recommendations for salinity control. The existing footnote reads [The details of this standard are set forth in the "1996 Review-Water Quality Standards for Salinity, Colorado River System" approved by the Commission on March 25, 1998]. It is proposed to replace each footnote with *[The salinity standard for the Colorado River System is specified in NAC 445A.143.]* All other Nevada tributaries in the Colorado River Basin that reference the Colorado River Basin salinity standards already have the proposed footnote language. This change will make the salinity references for all of Nevada's waters in the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control system uniform.

These proposed changes to NAC 445A.143, 195, and 197 are to reference the current Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Recommendations for salinity control of the Colorado River. These changes will make it easier to update the reference to the most current review, reduce future administrative changes, and make the salinity references for all of Nevada's waters in the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control system uniform.

4. Federal regulations (40CFR 131.20) require states periodically review their water quality standards.

5. (a) The proposed revisions do not regulate business; therefore, they are not expected to have any direct economic effect on the regulated community both immediately and long term.

(b) The proposed revisions are not expected to have any economic effect on the public both immediately and long-term.

(c) Implementation of the proposed regulations is not expected to result in additional cost by the agency for enforcement.
6. There are no other state or government agency regulations which the proposed revisions duplicate.
7. The federal government has delegated the responsibility of establishing water quality standards to the state; therefore, there is no federal regulation for proposed water quality standards revisions. Revisions of the standards will be submitted to the EPA Regional Administration for review and approval.
8. The regulation does not provide for fees.