

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

New Water for Today & Tomorrow –International Experience Session

**Multi-State Salinity Coalition
January 28, 2016**



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

Minute 319 Overview

- Innovative 5-year interim binational agreement
- Promotes sharing, conserving and storing water
- Demonstrates shared commitment to cooperation and partnership
- Comprised of 7 primary components



Minute 319 Signing Ceremony
November 20, 2012

Primary components of Minute 319

- Extends humanitarian measures of Minute 318
- Delivery reductions for Mexico under low reservoir conditions; additional deliveries under high reservoir conditions
- Creates Intentionally Created Mexican Allocation (ICMA)
- Includes actions to address salinity impacts
- Pilot Program - \$21M U.S. investment for infrastructure improvements and conservation in Mexico and ICMA/ICS exchange
- Establishes future potential projects
- Establishes expectation of another agreement to extend or replace substantive provisions of Minute 319

ICMA / ICS pilot exchange

- Mexico provides 124,000 acre-feet of water to the U.S. for ICMA/ICS exchange
- 95,000 acre-feet converted to ICS for U.S. municipal utility funders
 - ◆ Central Arizona Water Conservation District
 - ◆ Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
 - ◆ Southern Nevada Water Authority
- Remainder is system water



International Projects

Potential future projects:

- Environmental restoration in the Colorado River Delta
- Water conservation projects in Irrigation District 014
- Emergency conveyance of water to Mexico through the All-American Canal
- New water sources such as desalination plants at Rosarito Beach, New River, Sea of Cortez



Presidente Juarez power plant at Rosarito Beach

Meaning of Minute 319

- Recognizes increasingly collaborative relationship is vital to all of use that depend on the Colorado River
- Aligns water management practices in both countries – same trigger elevations at Lake Mead
- Creates the ability to exchange water (ICMA/ICS)
- Identifies projects that could add over 700,000 acre-feet annually to the Lower Colorado River System
- Likely reflects the nature of Minutes to come
 - ◆ Broad in scope
 - ◆ Promoting sharing of water across borders for municipalities, agriculture and the environment

Successor agreement to Minute 319

- Successor agreement to Minute 319:
 - ◆ Two countries, One River. Continued emphasis on Mexico as a partner
 - ◆ Incorporates lessons learned from Minute 319
 - ◆ New projects for added water with the ability to exchange (ICMA/ICS)
 - ◆ Mid to late 2016 is the target for completion of the new Minute





Questions / More Information

**For further information,
please visit our websites:**

**www.usbr.gov/uc/
www.usbr.gov/lc/**