

Governor

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality



Karen Peters Deputy Director

Michael Langley U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Arizona Regulatory Branch

Via Electronic Mail

Re: Clean Water Act § 401 Water Quality Certification for the Issuance of Regional General Permit No. 105 for Western Pinal County Drainage Maintenance

Dear Mr. Langley:

On September 25, 2024, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) received the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) public notice for the authorization of a new Regional General Permit (RGP) No. 105 (SPL-2024-00578), for the maintenance of channelized and/or engineered drainages in western Pinal County. These drainages include the following washes and any associated tributaries to these washes: *Lower Vekol Wash, Lower Santa Cruz Wash, Lower Santa Rosa Wash and Lower Greene Wash*. Based on the USACE public notice activities and conditions, ADEQ certifies the activities in the RGP105 will not violate applicable Surface Water Quality Standards in the project area waters.

At this time, there are no impaired or not-attaining waters or lakes in the project area that would be subject to this RGP. However, the Clean Water Act section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters is updated every two (2) years. If one of the project area waters is added to a future 303(d) List of Impaired Waters during the life of this permit, the project proponent must submit an application to ADEQ for certification. ADEQ will review the application's activities and the location of discharge(s) and will grant a "conditional water quality certification" indicating that requirements for § 401 Water Quality Certification are met, if the project proponent adheres to all conditions in the USACE RGP No. 105.

Information on ADEQ's CWA § 401 WQC, and impaired or not-attaining waters or lakes, can be found on our website at https://www.azdeq.gov/cwa401.

Required Actions

The applicant is responsible for complying with all general conditions specified in the USACE Regional General Permit #105; and the applicable USACE Regional Conditions for Arizona.

Recommendations

The issuance of a State 401 Water Quality Certification does not imply or suggest that requirements for other environmental permits have been met or superseded. Other environmental permits include, but are not limited to: Aquifer Protection Permits, Arizona Pollutant Discharge

Elimination System Permits, Construction General Permits, De Minimis Permits, Pesticide General Permits, and Reclaimed Water permits. Applicant should contact ADEQ via email at azpdes@azdeq.gov or call 602-771-1440 and leave a message on the AZPDES Hotline for additional information on all applicable permits.

Correspondence

For any correspondence regarding this project, the ADEQ mailing address is:

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Attn: Rosi Sherrill, Surface Water Permits 1110 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007

For questions or general comments:

Email: sherrill.laurie@azdeq.gov Voice: (602) 771-4409

In any correspondence, please reference:

RGP 105 – Western Pinal County Drainage Maintenance

ADEQ ID: 105715

USACE ID: SPL-2024-00587

Thank you for complying with Arizona's environmental requirements. Should you have any comments or questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Rosi Sherrill at 602-771-4409 or via sherrill.laurie@azdeq.gov.

Sincerely,

Josephine Maressa, Deputy Director Water Quality Division Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Date

electronic copies: USEPA – Wetlands Regional Office