

Memorandum

To: Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors
From: G. Patrick O'Dowd, Executive Director /GM
Date: August 25, 2022
Re: Desert Shores Dust Mitigation and Revitalization Project
CM No. V.D – 08-25-22

As you are aware, working with Imperial County and the State, we have been for some time pursuing a plan to move forward with this important project. Recently, based on language in the grant agreement, the conditions in the region, and other influencing factors, we felt justified in a request to allow this project to move forward without bidding the design and construction management portions of the project. This would have prospectively saved us a few months in getting this project under way and completed. Unfortunately, in spite of our best efforts we were unable to secure authorization from the Bureau of Reclamation to proceed without bid on this project. In fairness, they did not say we could not do it, but rather said we must follow the federal guidelines which, if we failed to interpret correctly in implementing the grant agreement would expose the Authority to the risk of audit by the Office of Inspector General, resulting in possible financial and other consequences which we are unable to timely determine or assess.

Instead, we are prepared to quickly move forward with the issuance of an RFP, working from the scope outlined in the original BoR request, and anticipate that if we can avoid any unanticipated delays we can have a contract let for this work in six to eight weeks. We estimate that based on this approach we should be in a position to award contract by early November.

We continue to work to support this and other projects at and around the Sea.

Recommendation: Informational only.