

From: [C Cotton](#)
To: [FGG, Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Government Affairs](#); [CouncilMember Joe LaCava](#); [Congressman Scott Peters](#)
Subject: [External] Re: 11/04/2025 and 11/05/2025 County of San Diego Board of Supervisors Agendas FINAL
Date: Friday, October 31, 2025 1:39:46 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
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Good Afternoon:

My understanding of line Item #2 is as follows:

International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) in California primarily focuses on managing the Tijuana River flood control channel, operating the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant, and working to resolve transboundary water quality issues in the Tijuana River Valley through monitoring and ongoing projects.

Treaty Compliance: Manages projects and coordinates with Mexico to address ongoing water quality problems, as mandated by the **1944 treaty**.

Broader IBWC responsibilities that apply to California:

Water Management: Works to ensure the equitable distribution of water resources from the **Rio Grande and Colorado River**.

Flood Protection: Maintains infrastructure like levees and floodways to protect lands along boundary rivers from flooding.

Boundary Demarcation: Helps maintain the land and river boundaries between the two countries.

There is NO proposed **Statement of Work (SOW)** developed by the **Office of Economic Development and Government Affairs (EDGA)** and not made publicly available.

EDGA Board memo from October 2024 (mentioned in one snippet) indicated ongoing progress on an action plan that included the creation of a Small Business Development Unit and the designation of a Small Business Manager to serve as a liaison which might be Board and the **Department of Purchasing and Contracting (DPC)** to expedite the procurement process related to SOW.

In 2022, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was using the \$300 million committed in the **United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)**. The EPA had progressed from planning to the **design and construction phase**, following the release of a Record of Decision in June 2022. Perhaps providing our constituents with an updated status report of the current phase would be helpful.

Associated Agreements: The USMCA funding is part of a broader effort that includes a separate agreement with Mexico, known as **Minute 328**, which details Mexico's commitments to fund its own wastewater collection and treatment projects.

The South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (SBIWTP) is undergoing a multi-year, **\$600 million project** to repair and expand its infrastructure, with work launched in October **2024**. The project aims to double the plant's capacity and includes rehabilitating existing facilities, performing concrete repairs, and installing a new bypass system. Initial repairs have focused on the grit facilities due to severe wear, with the full rehabilitation and expansion projected to take up to five years.

Arc flash study: An Arc Flash Study must be conducted to ensure the safety of electrical systems.

Funding is being secured through a combination of federal appropriations, including **\$156 million** from the Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

Thank You,
Cassandra Cotton