



Utilities Department Memorandum

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council

FROM: Cástulo R. Estrada, Utilities Director

DATE: April 16, 2025

SUBJECT: Quarterly Activity Report (January 2025 to March 2025)

Coachella Water Authority:

The Utilities Department Water Authority Division provides water pumping, treatment, and distribution services to more than 9,100 service connections citywide that include residential, commercial, and industrial users. The City has three (3) Storage Reservoirs of more than 10 million gallons of capacity with six (6) operating wells that provides more than 8,000 acre-feet of annual water production. This division is responsible for a variety of tasks including meter reading, repairs, pumping, production, treatment, main and distribution repairs, water quality complaints, service connections/disconnections, and capital improvements along with other assigned duties.

Coachella Water Authority Production and Distribution Highlights	
<u>Description</u>	<u>Value</u>
Total -Water Production (Jan to Feb) (MG)	489.50
Chlorine Consumption (Gallons)	2190
Monthly Samples Collected (Distribution System)	156
Quarterly Wells sampled	5
Valves Repaired/Replaced	1
Underground Service Alerts	38
Standby Service Calls	26
Water Service Leaks	30
Main Leaks	0
Non Responsive Meters Cycle One	431
Non Responsive Meters Cycle Two	637
Meter Replacements	45
Hydrant Replacements	1
Delinquency Turn Offs	44
Well Depths Monitored – 03/2025	
Well No. 10 Depth (feet,) SWL	31.2'
Well No. 11 Depth (feet,) SWL	71'
Well No. 12 Depth (feet,) SWL	69'
Well No. 16 Depth (feet,) SWL	40.1'
Well No. 17 Depth (feet,) PWL	116.6'
Well No. 18 Depth (feet,) SWL	73'
Well No. 19 Depth (feet,) PWL	117.8'
Annual Production	
2025 Total Current Production JAN 2025 to DEC 2025	489.5
2024 Annual (MG)	2340.7

Coachella Sanitary District:

The Utilities Department, Sanitary Division, provides for all the collection, treatment, and disposal of residential, commercial, and industrial wastewater for the more than 8,600 service connections within the City and more than 400,000 lineal feet of sewer collection system (100 miles) 4-inches to 54-inches, two (2) sewage pump stations, and over 1,700 manholes.

The Avenue 54 Wastewater Treatment Plant has a flow capacity of 4.5 million gallons per day. Consists of a raw wastewater lift station and headworks facility, which includes screenings and grit removal equipment, two separate secondary treatment process trains including contact stabilization tanks and oxidation ditches and disinfection facilities. Secondary effluent from the plant, following disinfection with sodium hypochlorite and dechlorination with sodium bisulfite is discharged through an outfall into the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel.

For the **3rd Quarter of January, February & March 2025**. A total of 278.25 MG of wastewater was received at the Wastewater Plant. With an average daily flow of 3.090 MGD. The plant treated a total of 251.104 MG. A total of 215 samples were collected at the plant for monitoring.

Water Reclamation Facility – 87075 Avenue 54th	
<i>Description</i>	<i>Value</i>
Total Influent per Month (MG)	92.75
Influent Average Daily Flow (MGD)	3.090
Total Effluent per month (MG)	83.70
Effluent Average Daily Flow (MGD)	2.789
Plant Permitted Capacity (MGD)	4.5
Operational Upsets	0
Permit Violations	0
Hypochlorite Consumption (Gallon)	14,23
Sodium Bisulfite Consumption (Gallon)	4,700
Odor Complaints	0
Samples Collected This Quarter (Plant)	215
Stand-By Calls	16
State & EPA Reports Completed/Submitted	Yes
Collection System & Pump Stations Highlights	
<i>Description</i>	<i>Value</i>
Underground Service Alert	682
Collection System Cleaning (feet)	74,001
Manhole Inspection/Cleaning	88
Collection System Spills	0
Collection System Blockages	0
Collection System CCTV Inspection (feet)	316
Samples Collected (Field)	0
Pump Station Alarms	2
Wet Well Cleaning	1
Wet Well/Lift Station Inspections	51
Odor complaints	0
State CIWQS Reports Submitted	Yes

Environmental Division:

The Environmental/Regulatory Division of the Utilities Department is responsible for areas relating directly to water, wastewater, storm water, and air quality protection. Initial focus is aimed at the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Industrial Wastewater Pretreatment Program (Source Control), and Fats, Oils & Grease (FOG) Program. These programs provide auditing, permitting, monitoring, and enforcement of our local City Ordinance. The following report details activities for the previous quarter:

- Attended weekly and/or monthly meetings with Desert Task Force (DTF), Coachella Valley Salt & Nutrient Management Plan (CV-SNMP), Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group (CVRWMG), and Riverside County Flood Control (RCFC)
- Reviewed and approved Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permits
- Performed industrial facilities and food service establishment inspections
- Issued enforcement violations
- Assist Development Services in reviewing plans pertaining to the Environmental Division
- Ensured Hazardous Waste is stored properly and scheduled for disposal
- Monitored stormwater outfalls discharging to the Coachella Valley Storm Channel (CVSC)
- Enforce cannabis agricultural wastewater discharge requirements

Engineering:

Well 20

- Final preparations are underway for the Specification Book. The team is ensuring all technical requirements are thoroughly captured and accurate.
- Final stages of Spec Book preparation completed.
- Spec Book was posted for advertisement on April 4.

Well 16

- Coordination with our consultant is ongoing to schedule and complete a pump test and collect necessary water samples. This is essential to verify operational performance and compliance.
- Coordinated setup for the pump test, including scheduling and verifying discharge location.
- Sent a list of sampling constituents to the consultant.
- Submersible test pump was installed on April 3, and the step test was conducted on April 7.
- Discussions with Dudek are ongoing to determine next steps.

Mesquite Project

- This project is in the closeout phase. A final inspection walk-through has been scheduled to complete the remaining tasks.
- Submitted Financial Budget Adjustment (FBA) to State Board; awaiting review response (expected August/September).

Tyler Street Sewer Project

- Construction officially began on February 24, 2025. Progress will continue to be tracked and reported in the next update.

Cross-Connection Control Policy

- Staff participated in a regional meeting with multiple valley agencies to review approaches to implementing the Cross-Connection Control Policy. All public water systems must submit their Cross-Connection Control Plan to the local district by July 1, 2025.

Submittals and Plan Checks

- Submittals have been reviewed and plan-checked as part of ongoing project workflows.

S-15 & W-35 Septic to Sewer Project and Shady Lane Water Consolidation

- The project received approval from the State Water Board to move forward with advertising. A pre-bid meeting was successfully conducted, providing prospective bidders with critical project information and clarifications.
- Received approval from the State Water Board to proceed with advertising.
- Two bids were received and opened on April 2nd.
- Reviewed the Consolidation Agreement with the city's legal team and consultant.
- Currently finalizing the consolidation agreement with Caritas.
- Preparing the Q1 progress report for submission to the State Board.
- Coordinating responses to RFIs from the pre-bid meeting.
- Provided bidders with project estimates.

Avenue 50 – Waterline Potholing Project

- Obtained a temporary encroachment permit from CVWD.
- Coordinated a pre-construction meeting with CVWD, MSA, and C-Below on April 4.
- C-Below began potholing on April 7–8. Some lines were not located at certain pothole locations; MSA is reviewing the findings to determine next steps.

Avenue 51 – Proposed Infrastructure

- Prepared and revised an exhibit and cost estimate spreadsheet for proposed water and sewer infrastructure.

S-18 Tyler Sewer Improvement

- Construction began on February 24.
- Amendment issued for the surveying contract.
- Coordinated RFI responses with the project engineer.

Coordination

- Coordinated with the State Board on several matters:
 - Funding opportunities and chromium treatment impacts.
 - Emergency notification plan completed as requested.
 - Ongoing responses to document and form requests.
- Reviewed and updated general water and sewer notes with TKE Engineering; shared standards with plan checker.