



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1201 ELM STREET, SUITE 500
DALLAS, TEXAS 75270

August 27, 2021

Vernon B. Abeita
Governor
Pueblo of Isleta
P.O. Box 1290
Isleta Pueblo, NM 87022

Re: Offer of Consultation on Reissuance of NPDES Permits:
Rio Puerco WWTP, NM0030686

Dear Governor Abeita:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 has been working to renew the above referenced NPDES permit. The existing permit has been administratively continued until the permit renewal is finalized. Because the Pueblo of Isleta (Isleta) is located downstream of the facility, the EPA would like to offer Isleta an opportunity to engage in government-to-government consultation on the permit renewal action.

Identifying concerns the Isleta may have as early in the permitting renewal process as possible will allow EPA and the permittees to address potential impacts to the Isleta's resources and practices. EPA anticipates having the draft permit available on August 28, 2021 with a 30-day public comment period from the date of public notice. The draft permit will be available online at <http://www.epa.gov/region6/water/npdes/publicnotices/index.htm>. The tribal consultation opportunity will begin as of the date of this letter. Any Isleta concerns with the draft permit will need to be identified by the end of the public comment period. A copy of the draft permit will also be provided to your office.

Tribal consultation will be conducted in accordance with the EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes (www.epa.gov/tribal/consultation/consult-policy.htm). Should you have questions, concerns or wish to discuss this action or the NPDES program, please contact me at (214) 665-8138 or your staff may contact Brent Larsen of my staff at (214) 665-7523. Should you wish to engage in consultation, please contact me or Randy Gee at (214) 665-8355.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles W. Maguire", is positioned below the "Sincerely," text.

Charles W. Maguire
Director
Water Division