



**NORTH AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
FACT SHEET
MEXICALI, BAJA CALIFORNIA**

Project: Sanitation Program

Cost: US\$54,973,527

Sponsors: *Comisión Estatal del Agua (CEA)*, a regulatory state entity responsible for coordinating the efforts of the water and wastewater utilities within the state of Baja California; and the *Comisión Estatal de Servicios Públicos de Mexicali (CESPM)*, an autonomous entity that provides water supply and wastewater treatment services for Mexicali, and is a decentralized agency of the Baja California State Government.

Location: Mexicali is the capital of the state of Baja California. It is located in the northeastern area of the state and shares the U.S.-Mexico border with Calexico, California.

Background: In Mexicali, 96 percent of the population has drinking water and 89 percent receives sewage collection services. The Mexicali I system is located in the northwest area of the city and serves 405,321 residents, representing 63.3 percent of the population. The Zaragoza Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) does not have the capacity to adequately treat the wastewater from the Mexicali I system. The treated wastewater flows 8.5 miles through two drainages before it is discharged into the New River.

The Mexicali II system is located in the northeast area of the city and serves 174,816 residents, which represents 27.3 percent of the population. Wastewater generated by the Mexicali II system does not currently receive adequate treatment since the Gonzalez Ortega WWTP was designed to treat 1.82 million gallons per day (mgd) and currently receives 6.85 mgd. Part of the wastewater effluent is discharged into the Mexicali drainage, and the other part is diverted to the Zaragoza WWTP. The outflow discharged into the Mexicali drainage flows 1.9 miles before it is discharged into the New River.

Description: This project involves the construction, rehabilitation and expansion of wastewater treatment plants and pumping stations, as well as the replacement and construction of portions of the city's collectors and sewer lines in both the Mexicali I and Mexicali II systems. It has been classified as an environmental priority for the region.

Mexicali I System

- Rehabilitation and expansion of Mexicali I treatment plant, from 22.4 to 29.67 mgd
- Lining for 20,000 ft. of sewer collectors
- Replacement of 24,245 ft. of sewer collectors and lines in varying diameters
- Construction of sanitary sewer, pumping plants and main sewer lines in different areas of the city to provide service to 46 subdivisions
- Installation of telemetry equipment in lift stations, pumping plants and treatment lagoons

Mexicali II System

- Rehabilitation of 6 lift stations
- Construction of pumping station #4
- Construction of sewer main (5.9 miles)
- Construction of 91,381 ft. of interceptors and collectors
- Replacement of 6,600 ft. of sewer lines
- Installation of telemetry equipment in lift stations, pumping stations, and treatment plant

BECC Certification: December 5, 1997

NADB Funding: Border Environment Infrastructure Fund (BEIF)
Construction Grant Assistance : US\$20.62 million

Institutional Development Cooperation Program (IDP)

A financial and institutional strengthening analysis of CESPM was undertaken to determine its financial capacity to operate and maintain the system. A second phase of the study was undertaken to define a rate structure, financial reserves to operate and maintain the system and specific commercial, operational and efficiency goals.

Other Funding Sources: The U.S. and Mexican Sections of the International Boundary Water Commission (IBWC), the Mexican national water commission, *Comisión Nacional del Agua* (CNA), and Mexican state and local authorities

Benefits: With this project, 93 percent of the population will receive sewage services including more than 46 subdivisions located on the west side of the city. In addition, the project will improve quality of the effluent discharged from the Mexicali I plant.

For more information, contact Juan Antonio Flores,
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