

August 23, 2004

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Las Cruces Field Office and the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) are preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the proposed Alamogordo Regional Water Supply Project.

The purpose of this scoping packet is to give you an early opportunity to participate in the development of the EIS and to comment on the proposed Project. Comments must be postmarked by October 25, 2004. A postage-paid comment card is provided with this scoping packet. Additional comments may be mailed to the Project address. If your mailing address is incorrect, please make any changes on that card. If you choose not to return the comment card, your name will be removed from the Project mailing list. Comments may also be sent via email to the Project address: almwater@swca.com.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

There will be two (2) Public Meetings to present information on the proposed Project and to receive public comments. These meetings will be held at the following times and locations:

**Alamogordo:** October 5, 2004 **Tularosa:** October 6, 2004

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Willie Estrada Civic Center Senior Center 800 East First Street 1055 Bookout Road Alamogordo, NM 88310 Tularosa, NM 88352

We look forward to your comments. Should you have any questions prior to the meeting, please feel free to contact Philip Rhinehart, Bureau of Land Management, (505) 525-4426.

Sincerely,

SWCA Environmental Consultants 7001 Prospect Place NE, Suite 100 Albuquerque, NM 87110 almwater@swca.com