

The image features two flagpoles crossing in the center. The pole on the left holds the Mexican flag, which is partially visible on the left side of the frame. The pole on the right holds the United States flag, which is partially visible on the right side. The background is white.

Minute 320 Notification Protocol

Binational Core Group Meeting

International Boundary and Water Commission

United States Section

October 27, 2020



Minute 320 Notification Protocol

- Minute 320 was signed on October 5, 2015
- A transboundary sewage spill in February 2017 resulted in site visits and binational collaborative work and a report in April 2017
- The April 2017 report made important recommendations
 - Acquire equipment to divert and route flows
 - Additional metering of flows
 - A communication and notification enhancement of data collection and information exchange to assist in speedy detection and response
 - Infrastructure assessment and data collection
- The notification protocol was adopted shortly thereafter



Minute 320 Notification Protocol

- One of the objectives identified by the Water Quality Binational Work Group, that was proposed to the Binational Core Group (BCG) was the development of an “Operation and Notification Protocol” for PB-CILA
- The intent of the “Operation and Notification Protocol” was to ensure a greater operational transparency and provide timely notification to the public for their security and wellbeing



Minute 320 Notification Protocol

- US letter No. US 084/20 dated June 29, 2020, identified ongoing transboundary flows
- Continuous flows were noted at the Del Sol, Goat Canyon (Laureles), and Smuggler's Gulch (Matadero) collectors since November 20, 2019.
- Those recent flows occurred even though there were no rain events in the area since April 13, 2020.



Minute 320 Notification Protocol

- Binational Tijuana River Spill Notification Protocol
- Mexico Notification (CESPT to MXIBWC)
 - Notify w/in the hour, whenever possible, of system situation/failure which can result in raw sewage discharges into the Tijuana River
 - Notification information to include:
 - ✓ What happened or cause of issue,
 - ✓ Location,
 - ✓ When issue/discharge started (date and time),
 - ✓ Volume being discharged
 - ✓ Action being or will be taken to stop discharge
 - ✓ How long expected to repair problem and eliminate the discharge
- Mexico notifies USIBWC of above



Minute 320 Notification Protocol

- Binational Tijuana River Spill Notification Protocol
- USIBWC Notification
 - If a discharge is noted by USIBWC or others in the United States
 - USIBWC will notify MXIBWC that an apparent spill to the United States has occurred and request from MXIBWC within 24 hours:
 - ✓ What happened or cause of issue,
 - ✓ Location,
 - ✓ When issue/discharge started (date and time),
 - ✓ Volume being discharged
 - ✓ Action being or will be taken to stop discharge
 - ✓ How long expected to repair problem and eliminate the discharge
 - USIBWC will immediately notify U.S. stakeholders
 - USIBWC will request of MXIBWC that a joint binational inspection of the river be conducted to determine the possible location of the release.



Minute 320 Notification Protocol

- MXIBWC will continue to follow up with CESPT on the progress of actions to resolve the problem and provide USIBWC updates until discharges are discontinued.
- USIBWC updates US stakeholders until discharges are discontinued
- Final U.S. spill report will be filed with the Regional Water Quality Control Board by the USIBWC once spill has ended.
- MXIBWC to provide follow-up to the incident and will provide, jointly with CESPT, a final summary to USIBWC as well as both delegations (U.S. and Mexican) of the Minute 320 Binational Water Quality Work Group, if considered necessary by both USIBWC and MXIBWC.



Binational Core Group

Minute 320 Notification Protocol

Path Forward

- Re-confirm established Notification Protocols?
- Update Notification Protocols, if needed?
- Stress to appropriate Work Groups that all stake holders are aware of Notification Protocols
- Update stake holder contact list
- Re-commitment to Notification Protocols



Minute 320 Notification Protocol

- Emergency Notification Protocol in Mexico – 30 Aug 2017
https://ibwc.gov/Files/CESPT_ProtocolEmergencia_083017.pdf
- Binational Tijuana River Spill Notification Protocol – 09 Aug 2017
https://ibwc.gov/Files/Initial_Binational_Tijuana_River_Spill_Notification_113017.pdf
- CILA Pump Station Operations and Notification Protocol - 09 Aug 2017
https://ibwc.gov/Files/CILA_EmergencyProtocol_101817.pdf