

CVRWMG RFP **Executive Summary**

This Request For Proposal (RFP) seeks consulting services for the development of an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) for the Coachella Valley Water Management Region (Region) by the Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group (CVRWMG), which was formed by the five water purveyors in the Coachella Valley. The Region, as designated by the California Department of Water Resources, lies within the Colorado River Funding Region. It is chiefly the same boundary as the Whitewater River Basin boundary, also known as the Coachella Valley.

The CVRWMG intends to develop an IRWMP that is the product of a collaborative, multi-stakeholder process and that addresses the water issues of the Region. Further, the Group expects that developing outreach processes will be a key activity in Plan development.

CVRWMG Overview

The five Partners in the CVRWMG each signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in September 2008 that brought the group into existence. The MOU was the result of discussions about IRWM planning that had been ongoing for several years, some as early as 2004.

The Partners began meeting regularly in February 2008 to develop the MOU and that was followed by the development of a submittal to the Region Acceptance Process in April 2009. The RAP materials were accomplished through a collaborative, consensus-seeking process using facilitation services. However, preparation of the content and technical work of the RAP was done by agency staff, without consulting services.

Scope of Services

The CVRWMG has decided to take a phasing approach to the development of the Plan. The scope of work (Exhibit 1) identifies the three phases of Plan development and further enumerates the tasks and project deliverables within each phase. This RFP covers Phase 1, Tasks 1 and 2. A successful engagement by the firm selected to perform Phase 1 tasks will likely result in that firm continuing in Phases 2 and 3. However, the CVRWMG reserves the option of making that assessment as the project evolves.

Evaluation Criteria

In evaluating proposals, the CVRWMG's emphasis will be on demonstrated experience, rather than description of concepts. Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria: responsiveness to the RFP, project approach and technical understanding, completeness and implementability of the project, ability to complete tasks in the scope on schedule, experience and qualifications of the assigned individuals, firm and project manager in preparing similar projects and cost.