



INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

For Immediate Release
May 14, 2026

USIBWC WORKING TO MINIMIZE IMPACTS OF EMERGENCY REPAIRS AT TIJUANA'S PARALLEL GRAVITY LINE

The U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) is monitoring emergency repairs beginning tonight (May 14) to repair a leak on the Parallel Gravity Line that conveys wastewater in Tijuana.

USIBWC has been in close contact with Mexico, demanding they take every action possible to eliminate additional wastewater from going into the Tijuana River and entering the United States.

During this repair, which is expected to take at least 24 hours, pump stations PBCILA and PB1 will be offline and flow from the Tijuana sanitation system will be sent to the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Area residents may notice increased wastewater and stronger odors in the Tijuana River Channel due to the pump stations being offline.

Other possible impacts are beach closures and health risks if untreated or partially treated wastewater reaches U.S. waters.

Since flow to the Smuggler's Gulch canyon collector is possible, USIBWC is implementing proactive measures to stop or reduce transboundary flows there. Staff and equipment are in position at the collector.

USIBWC Commissioner Chad McIntosh has informed the Mexican Section of the IBWC that transboundary flows are unacceptable and the United States expects Mexico to take all necessary actions to stop any flows.

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