

Staff Report

for the Board of Directors Meeting of February 22, 2017

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Gary D. King, Engineering Manager
DATE: February 14, 2017
SUBJECT: Policy #6685 Canal Encasements

ENGINEERING

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve a new policy for canal encasement as recommend by the Engineering Committee on January 17, 2017

BACKGROUND:

The District has created a new policy to direct staff for the encasement of canals and gives clarity to the Districts requirements for the required encasements.

The policy addresses numerous issues that have been encountered by the District relevant to encasing of the canals. These issues have been by developers, private landowners, and District activities. The policy will create a consistent direction for the managing of external or internal encasement activities.

The attached policy is recommended by the Engineering Committee and staff to the Board for approval.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

There is no budget impact at this time.

GDK

Nevada Irrigation District

POLICY MANUAL

POLICY TITLE: Canal Encasements
POLICY NUMBER: 6685

The intent of this policy is to provide guidance in determining when the encasement of a canal will be required.

The District owns and maintains over 450 miles of open canals. District canals and the related facilities are designed and constructed to accommodate District managed water supplies, plus some limited intrusion flow.

Encasement of canals may be necessary to protect the water quality, as well as minimize the risk of injury, reduce operation and maintenance costs, minimize storm water intrusion, and eliminate seepage claims. The impacts of development and climate change will continue to cause an increase in quantity and intensity of stormwater adjacent to our system. It is the Districts desire that storm water should remain within the watershed of origin.

- 6685.1** District will proactively pursue encasement of canals to reduce losses and health and safety impacts to water.
- 6685.2** Factors used to determine the need for encasements in development include location and size of buildings, parking lots, roads and other improvements within the development, the canals size, and type of downstream water use, the nature of the development and the use of hazardous materials within the development.
- 6685.3** The encasement policy is supported by the storm water policy to eliminate the discharge of storm water into existing facilities. The focus will be to divert storm water away from District facilities and allow storm water to remain in its natural channel and parent watershed as outlined in the stormwater policy.
- 6685.4** District will attempt to minimize facility interference with natural watershed systems
- 6685.5** District will design culverts, canals, and appurtenant structures to meet approved master plan design flows for District operations with an additional 25% capacity for unanticipated flows, or as modified by the Engineering Manager, but shall not permit the system to be used for the intentional conveyance of storm water.

- 6685.6** District will engage and require local and state governments to handle and mitigate impacts to District facilities by storm water runoff.
- 6685.7** Encasements will be designed to reduce impacts on the environment and maintain natural flows in the natural drainage way.
- 6685.9** Seepage from District facilities does not convey a water right to the beneficiary and the water remains the property of the District.
- 6685.10** Private culverts can be considered an encasement but are covered under another policy.

Adopted: February 22, 2017 via Resolution No.2017 -

**ESTABLISHING POLICY FOR
CANAL ENCASEMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Nevada Irrigation District (the "District") intends to establish, and revise from time to time, administrative policies to guide the operations and management of the District; and

WHEREAS, the District's insurance carrier provided sample guidelines for personnel and administrative policies for consideration by the District; and

WHEREAS, over the past few years, the District has adopted several administrative policies using the sample guidelines, in an effort to assemble a comprehensive policy manual; and

WHEREAS, certain District policies are outdated, and should be revised and formatted in the same manner as the sample guidelines; and

WHEREAS, such draft policy has been reviewed by the District's Legal Counsel and found to be in accordance with law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District hereby adopts the following policy, as attached and shall be incorporated herein:

#6685 Canal Encasements

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the attached policy shall be incorporated into the District Policy Manual, and the Board Secretary is hereby authorized to assign and revise policy numbers, and format and reformat the attached, as needed for an organized, comprehensive, policy manual.

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PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District at a regular meeting held on the 22nd day of February, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES:	Directors:
NOES:	Directors:
ABSENT:	Directors:
ABSTAINS:	Directors:

President of the Board of Directors

Attest:

Secretary to the Board of Directors