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INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for Reconstruction of the Fort Hancock-El Porvenir International Bridge, Rio Grande Rectification Project, Hudspeth County, Texas

AGENCY: United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico (USIBWC).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The USIBWC hereby gives notice that the *Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Reconstruction of the Fort Hancock-El Porvenir International Bridge, Rio Grande Rectification Project, Hudspeth County, Texas* is available.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Verdecchia, Natural Resources Specialist, Telephone: (915) 832-4701, email: elizabeth.verdecchia@ibwc.gov.

ADDRESSES: The electronic version of the Draft EA and FONSI is available at the USIBWC webpage: https://www.ibwc.gov/reports-studies/eis-ea-public-comment/. Public comments may be submitted to Elizabeth Verdecchia, Natural Resources Specialist, USIBWC, 4191 N Mesa, El Paso, Texas 79902; email: elizabeth.verdecchia@ibwc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The USIBWC is proposing to construct a new bridge section on the U.S. side of the Fort Hancock – El Porvenir International Bridge that would tie-in to the Mexican section of the bridge, in order to address structural and safety issues with the bridge. Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the USIBWC Operational Procedures for Implementing Section 102 of NEPA, published in the Federal Register September 2, 1981, USIBWC developed a Draft EA that analyzed the Action Alternative (Preferred

Alternative) and the No Action Alternative. The Action Alternative – U.S. Side Rebuild to Same Profile would construct a new bridge section on the U.S. side to address with the structural integrity of the substructure and bridge deck. The new bridge section on the U.S. side would tie-in to the Mexican section of the bridge, which is in good condition. The new bridge section would generally match the existing bridge with regard to having the same height and width, similar roadway and sidewalk, but with an improved floodgate. Under the No Action Alternative, USIBWC would not construct a new bridge section, and the safety issues would not be addressed.

Potential impacts on natural, cultural, and other resources were evaluated. A Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Action, based on a review of the facts and analyses contained in the EA. An environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

Dated: November 9, 2026.

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Rebecca Rizzuti,
USIBWC Deputy Chief Counsel, International Boundary and Water Commission, United States Section.

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