



# PROJECTED TIMELINE

## SURFACE WATER QUALITY STATE PERMITTING PROGRAM

### STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

1

**SUMMER 2023**

Initial outreach to broad stakeholder list: online stakeholder survey: presentations at various venues to discuss the impacts of the US Supreme Court's Decision and the need for a state-led permitting program.

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE FORMATION

2

**SUMMER 2024**

The Advisory Committee will serve as a stakeholder-based forum for providing detailed technical feedback and recommendations on NMED's preliminary proposal for a state-led surface water quality permitting program.

### ADOPTION OF NPDES STATUTE

3

**SPRING 2025**

The legislature adopts the NPDES statute.

### DRAFT RULE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

4

**SPRING 2025**

Interested persons throughout the state will have the opportunity to review and comment on a draft rule authorizing a state-led surface water quality permitting program.

### PETITION WQCC FOR RULEMAKING

5

**SUMMER 2025**

NMED will formally ask the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) to schedule a hearing on the surface water permitting program rule.

### PROGRAM CAPACITY BUILDING

6

**SUMMER 2025**

NMED will build capacity in permit writing, compliance and enforcement and data handling: this will require additional staff and secure funding.

### WQCC HEARING

7

**WINTER 2025**

The WQCC will hold a public hearing on the proposed rule: public notice is given at least 60 days prior.

### PERMITTING PROGRAM RULE TAKES EFFECT

8

**SUMMER 2026**

The post hearing process concludes with a decision by the WQCC. The new rule will take effect 30 days after the approval.

### INITIAL PROGRAM ROLLOUT

9

**2027**

Anticipated rollout of the permitting program for state surface waters.

### ADDITIONAL PHASED PROGRAM ROLLOUT

10

**2028**

NMED will continue to build capacity for permitting compliance/enforcement and data management while working to obtain EPA approval for NPDES delegation.