

PROJECTED TIMELINE

STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

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.

ADOPTION OF Statutory Proposals

SPRING 2025

The legislature adopts the NMPDES Delegation Statute and NM Water Quality Act Amendments.

PETITION WQCC FOR RULEMAKING

FALL 2025

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

SURFACE WATER QUALITY STATE PERMITTING PROGRAM

SURFACE WATER ADVISORY PANEL (SWAP)

FALL 2024 - SWAP

A committee of diverse stakeholders provides technical information and practical considerations relevant to a state-led permitting program.

DRAFT RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

SUMMER 2025

Interested persons throughout the state have the opportunity to review and comment on draft rules authorizing a stateled surface water quality permitting program.

PROGRAM CAPACITY BUILDING

2025 + ONGOING

NMED builds capacity in permit writing, compliance and enforcement, and data handling: this will require additional staff and secure funding. **WQCC HEARING SPRING 2027** The WQCC holds a public hearing on the proposed rules: public **INITIAL PROGRAM ROLLOUT** notice is given at least 60 days prior. 2027 Anticipated rollout of the permitting program for state surface waters. **ADDITIONAL PHASED PROGRAM ROLLOUT** 2028 NMED continues to build capacity while working to obtain EPA approval for **NPDES** delegation.

This timeline is an approximate schedule for planning purposes only. Any unforseen event or delay in the program development process may affect the projected dates. The WQCC - not NMED- sets the hearing schedule. NMED will adjust this timeline as circumstances require. Updated on 11/15/2024