

Subject: Comments on Proposed Revisions to the WQMP  
Date: Fri, 28 Feb 2003 14:38:52 -0700  
From: Chris Mechels <cmechels@att.net>  
Organization: Retired  
To: Stephanie Stringer <Stephanie\_Stringer@nmenv.state.nm.us>,  
Joni Arends <jarends@nuclearactive.org>

Ms. Stringer,

Upon reviewing the Proposed Revisions to the Statewide Water Quality Management Plan (January 14, 2003), tentatively set for consideration by the WQCC on April 8, 2003 I have the following comments on the Revision:

I believe that you have made a worthy beginning with this revision in capturing the good features of the model document from Colorado and adapting it to our unique New Mexico regulatory environment. However, it seems to me that you ran out of time for the "Water Quality Standards" section of the document.

I would like to see the bulk of the language from Pages 23-27 of the Colorado model incorporated into the Proposed Revision before adoption, modified as appropriate for New Mexico. I believe that this would more adequately inform the public on the establishment of Water Quality Standards, and that this is a central issue in water quality management.

As a relative newcomer to this issue, I do not find any existing NMED document, other than the WQMP, that provides an adequate overview of Water Quality Management, and that this Proposed Revision must therefore be complete and clear enough to perform this important task, assisting informed public involvement.

With that completion of the Proposed Revision I believe it will be a valuable document.

Please feel free to call me for any necessary clarification of these comments.

Regards,

Chris Mechels