
8.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation was solicited in development of this TMDL (see Appendix B). The draft TMDL was made available for a 30-day comment period on March 17, 2006. Response to Comments are included as Appendix C of this document. The draft document notice of availability was extensively advertised via newsletters, email distribution lists, webpage postings (<http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/>), and press releases to area newspapers. A public meeting in the Río Puerco Watershed was held April 4, 2006 from 6-8 p.m. . There was a request for a public hearing on June 1, 2006. Responses to this hearing request are included in Appendix E. A second public meeting regarding the draft TMDL was held August 10, 2006, from 6-8 p.m. The public hearing was held on September 12 and October 10, 2006. All meetings and the hearing were held at the Village of Cuba Senior Center.

Once the TMDL is approved by the Water Quality Control Commission, the next step for public participation is revision of the Rio Puerco WRAS as described in Section 6.0, and participation in subsequent Clean Water Act Section 319(h) projects. The WRAS development process is open to any member of the public who wants to participate.