



NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



*Surface Water Quality Bureau*

SUSANA MARTINEZ  
Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ  
Lieutenant Governor

Harold Runnels Building, N2050  
1190 South St. Francis Drive (87505)  
P.O. Box 5469, Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469  
Phone (505) 827-0187 Fax (505) 827-0160  
[www.nmenv.state.nm.us](http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us)

DAVE MARTIN  
Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE  
Deputy Secretary

JAMES H. DAVIS, Ph.D.  
Director  
Resource Protection Division

October 11, 2012

Russell Nelson (6WQ-EW)  
Water Quality Protection Division  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202

**Re: Request for EPA technical approval of use attainability analysis conducted pursuant to NMAC 20.6.4.15(C)**

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Pursuant to 20.6.4.15(C) of the State of New Mexico Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Surface Waters, the New Mexico Environment Department hereby submits 18 use attainability analyses (UAA) conducted using the department's *Hydrology Protocol* (HP) for EPA's technical approval.

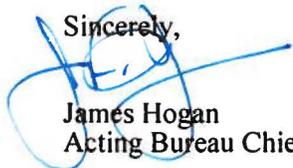
The purpose of this set of UAA's is to determine the appropriate water quality standards for a set of non-perennial waters which are NPDES receiving waters for facilities which infrequently discharge. The field work for these UAA's was conducted by NMED staff and D.B. Stephens and Associates, a contractor working for NMED. Based on the result of the contractor's analysis NMED developed the UAA's submitted in this request. As required by 20.6.4.15(C) these UAA's were posted on NMED's website and an email was sent to the interested parties list on July 27, 2012. Comment was invited for a 30-day public which ended on August 27, 2012. Two sets of comments were received.

The following documents are enclosed on compact disc to satisfy the requirements of 20.6.4.15(C) and to aid in EPA technical review for this submission:

- Hydrology Protocol cover forms and field sheets from 18 stream segments proposed
- Letter from EPA providing initial technical review
- Public comments received and NMED's response.

I appreciate the ongoing consultation and assistance provided to NMED staff throughout this process by the Region 6 water quality standards program. If you have any questions about this submittal or require additional information, please contact Jodey Kougioulis of my staff at (505) 827-2820.

Sincerely,

  
James Hogan  
Acting Bureau Chief

Enclosure (compact disc)

cc: Jodey Kougioulis, NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau