



COLORADO
Produced Water Consortium

Department of Natural Resources

Executive Director's Office
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

November 29, 2023

NMED-GWQB
Attn: Water Reuse Regulation
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM, 87502

Dear New Mexico Environment Department,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the New Mexico Environmental Department's proposed water reuse regulations, Ground and Surface Water Protection - Supplemental Requirements for Water Reuse (20.6.8 NMAC).

The Colorado Produced Water Consortium is an advisory body consisting of individuals with expertise in produced water, environmental impacts, environmental justice concerns, and community perspectives. The primary goal of the Consortium is to reduce the use of freshwater and increase the recycling of produced water in oil and gas operations. The focus of the Consortium is to develop an informed path for recycled produced water and reuse water within, and potentially outside of, oil and gas operations in the state and to identify and address barriers associated with the utilization of produced water.

Both the Raton Basin and the San Juan Basin cross the New Mexico and Colorado borders. The Raton Basin is situated in Las Animas and Huerfano counties of southeastern Colorado, and immediately to the west, the San Juan Basin extends into La Plata and Archuleta counties in southwestern Colorado. Cooperative and coordinated communication between our states is essential in developing practical approaches to recycled produced water and water reuse in these oil and gas basins.

I have reviewed the proposed water reuse regulations and appreciate New Mexico's efforts to increase the use of produced water for approved uses while being protective of the water resources, environment, public health, safety, and wildlife. I look forward to continued collaboration on opportunities related to use of produced water and reuse water.

Thank you,

Hope Dalton, Director
Colorado Produced Water Consortium

