Homer, Pamela, NMENV

From: Homer, Pamela, NMENV

Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 10:18 AM

To: Homer, Pamela, NMENV

Subject: Notice - Update of Water Quality Management Plan & Continuing Planning Process

Dear Water Quality Stakeholder:

The Surface Water Quality Bureau of the New Mexico Environment Department invites public comment on a draft update of two federally required planning documents: the Statewide Water Quality Management Plan and the Continuing Planning Process. Major proposed changes include: merging the two documents into one, providing greater detail on the process for developing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), and adding the *Hydrology Protocol*, a methodology for distinguishing between ephemeral, intermittent and perennial streams that can be used to support changes to water quality standards.

The public is invited to comment on the draft update, which is available for review at http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/SWQB/planning/wqmp-cpp/index.html.

The Bureau will hold two public meetings:

Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2011, 6:00 PM

2011, 6:00 PM

LaFarge Public Library

City Hall

700 N. Main St.,

Room 2007B, Las Cruces

Written comments and requests for hearing must be received by 5:00 PM on February 28, 2011. Please send them to me at pamela.homer@state.nm.us, or by regular mail or fax at the contact information below. Requests for hearing must be in writing and set forth the reasons why a hearing should be held.

After the public comment period closes, the Bureau will revise the draft as appropriate and prepare a response to comments. The Water Quality Control Commission will hold a hearing if there are hearing requests and if it determines there is significant public interest. If there is no hearing, the Commission will consider the document for approval at one of its regular open public meetings.

Feel free to contact me with any questions. We appreciate your interest and participation.

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