



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
WATER QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION
1190 St. Francis Drive
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

CONSTITUENT AGENCIES:

Environment Department
State Engineer & Interstate Stream Commission
Game and Fish Department
Oil Conservation Division
Department of Agriculture
Department of Health
State Parks Division
Soil and Water Conservation Commission
Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources
Members-at-Large

July 12, 2012

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

Re: Submittal of Amendments to Water Quality Standards

Dear Mr. Honker:

Pursuant to §303(c)(2) of the federal Clean Water Act and 40 CFR 131.20(c), the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission ("Commission") hereby submits recently adopted amendments to the *Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Surface Waters* at 20.6.4 NMAC ("Standards"), which will become effective for state purposes on July 10, 2012.

The amendments are the result of a petition to change the aquatic life use on the lower Dry Cimarron River from coldwater to coolwater, and add 19 new segments establishing water quality standards for 62 lakes in the Rio Grande, Pecos, Canadian, Gila, San Juan and Little Colorado Basins.

The following documents are enclosed on compact disc to satisfy the requirements of 40 CFR 131.6 for water quality standards submissions:

- certification by the State Attorney General that the amendments were duly adopted pursuant to state law,
- 20.6.4 NMAC amended sections in underline/strikeout format
- the Water Quality Control Commission's Order and Statement of Reasons,
- the amended Standards showing all changes,
- the transcript of the proceedings, and
- selected exhibits from the hearing record.

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The Commission appreciates 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 James Hogan, Acting Surface Water Quality Bureau Chief, at (505) 476-3671.

Sincerely,



Butch Tongate, Chair
Water Quality Control Commission

Enclosure (compact disc)

cc: James Hogan, Acting Chief, NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau
Ryan Flynn, NMED Office of General Counsel