



New Mexico Environment Department

New Mexico Produced Water Research Consortium Water Reuse Rulemaking Update

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Status of Water Reuse Regulation Development

- September of 2023 – Advisory Committee Met
- Public Comment Period Open November 1st through December 1st.
- December – NMED incorporating and responding to comments from advisory committee, public, and internal.
- December 29, 2023 – NMED will file a request for hearing with the Water Quality Control Commission.
- Request hearing in April of 2024.



Status of Water Reuse Regulation Development

- The draft regulation creates a new section in 20.6 NMAC titled Part 8 – Ground and Surface Water Protection – Supplemental Requirements for Water Reuse.
- This section will house reuse requirements for:
 - ▣ Direct and Indirect Potable Reuse.
 - ▣ Reclaimed Wastewater.
 - ▣ Industrial Graywater.
 - ▣ Produced Water (Outside OCD jurisdiction)
 - ▣ Desalination.



Produced Water Advisory Committee

- **Committee comprised of members from:**
 - ▣ Tribal Governments
 - ▣ Academia
 - ▣ Economic Development
 - ▣ EMNRD
 - ▣ NMED
 - ▣ Industry
 - ▣ Environmental NGOs



Coming Attractions – What's Next?

- NMED has engaged third party support to develop regulations for indirect and direct potable reuse.
- NMED engaging with NMSU to develop regulations on Desalination.
- NMED has engaged a Public Relations firm to develop public outreach resources to socialize water reuse.
- Second phase of rulemaking in latter part of 2024.



Important Notes

- Future rulemaking intended to standardize and simplify permitting of water reuse.
- NMED already permits the following reuse systems on a case-by-case basis:
 - Indirect potable reuse (Rio Rancho, NM)
 - Brackish Water Desalination – Alamogordo
 - Direct potable reuse (Cloudcroft)
 - Working with Las Vegas, NM on an indirect potable reuse pilot.



Strategic Water Supply

\$500 Million Dollar Investment

Advanced Market Commitments

NMED Developing Guidance and will seek proposals from entities interested in pursuing a contract.

Spring of 2024



Questions?

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