

February 21, 2003

Dear Reader;

Contained in this Regional Water Planning Read File are the following documents:

1. *Taking Charge of our Water Destiny: A Water Management Policy for New Mexico in the 21st Century*. The booklet is published by 1000 Friends and gives an excellent overview of the water situation and policies in New Mexico. It's a well-developed call for action. The booklet is also available at www.1000friends-nm.org
2. A list of the membership and the organization represented of the Southwest Regional Steering Committee. The Southwest Region includes the four counties of Catron, Grant, Hidalgo and Luna. The Steering Committee meets on the fourth Thursdays of the even numbered months at 2:30 p.m. The location varies, is the same as the Southwest Council of Government and Black Range RC&D Meetings and is advertised in local area newspapers. The public is always invited.
3. *The Regional Water Planning Handbook* prepared by the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission. The *Handbook* provides a concise explanation of the purpose of and the legislative requirements for regional water plans. It also explains the State required Regional Water Planning Template. The *Handbook* is also available at www.ose.state.nm.us.
4. *A White Paper, New Mexico's Water Supply and Active Water Resource Management* prepared by the Office of the State Engineer and the Interstate Stream Commission. This paper: 1) Outlines the current threats and challenges that confront New Mexico and its water resources, 2) Describes the framework to actively manage New Mexico's water resources to meet those treats and challenges, and 3) Sets out the minimum requirements and resources the State Engineer needs to actively manage New Mexico's water resources to meet those current threats and challenges. The Paper is also available at www.ose.state.nm.us.
5. *Strategic Plan* prepared by the State Engineer and Interstate Stream Commission. The *Plan* covers the mission, goals and programs to achieve those missions and goals of the State Engineer and Interstate Stream Commission. One of the goals discussed is to develop a State Water Plan. The Plan is also available at www.ose.nm.us.
6. The Executive Summary of the 1991 *Southwest Regional Water Plan* prepared by Resource Technology Inc. of Albuquerque. The recommendations in the 1991 Plan were not implemented. Without public awareness, participation, acceptance and commitment, the same thing could happen with current planning efforts.
7. **House Bill 260**, "AN ACT Relating to Water; Providing for a Comprehensive State Water Plan; Making an Appropriation". **House Bill 260** shows what the State plans to do with the regional water plans. Remember that the regional water plans will eventually have to be updated as well.
8. The Contact and Scope of Work between Daniel B. Stephens & Associates and the City of Deming, the fiscal agent and the Southwest Regional Steering Committee. This documents the responsibilities of the parties involved by contract. The Contract and Scope of Work are also available at www.dbstephens.com and www.cityofdeming.org.
9. The minutes of the Steering Committee Meetings. These provide a history of Steering Committee efforts to date. The minutes are also available at www.cityofdeming.org.
10. Steering Committee Resolutions. As the name implies, these indicate Steering Committee resolve. Resolutions are available at www.cityofdeming.org.
11. A Press Release. This was an initial attempt to inform the public of the necessity, progress and impact on the public of the regional planning in the Southwest Region. The local newspapers used the information in various ways.
12. The Public Participation Plan will be included once approved by the Steering Committee.
13. Additional documentation will be added as it becomes available. Press releases, The Public Participation Plan and additional documentation as developed is or will be available by visiting our web site at www.dbstephens.com or www.cityofdeming.org.

14. Any questions or requests for additional information can be directed to me, Tom Bates, Regional Water Planning Manager at 546-8848, PO Box 706, Deming NM 88031 or tbates@cityofdeming.org. You may also contact your representative on the Steering Committee.