

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE
WATER ASSEMBLY

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
ALB NM
PERMIT 121

**The
Planning
Process**

Visions
&
Values

Goals
&
Objectives

Balancing
the Budget

Assembling
Actions

Choosing
Our
Options

Building
Scenarios

Drafting the
Plan



Adopting
&
Implementing

**Why Participate in
the Implementation
of the Regional
Water Plan?**

Now that the Regional Water Plan is finalized, we all need to make sure that does not end up on a shelf.

Please think about how the Assembly should evolve, and then how you can play a role in achieving the mission of the plan:

*To Balance Use With
Renewable Supply.*



Want to know more? To review the plan, visit our website - www.WaterAssembly.org. Contact Bob Wessely, Assembly Chair, at 867-3889 or wessely@sciso.com.

NEXT STEP: IMPLEMENTING THE
REGIONAL WATER PLAN

**Coping with the Urgent
Shortfall Reality - Meeting Rio
Grande Compact Obligations
in the Years to Come**



Friday, June 18, 2004
1:30 to 4:30 p.m.
UNM Continuing Education Center
University & Indian School
&
Saturday, June 19, 2004
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Dane Smith Hall, UNM

Water Assembly Mission: *To develop a plan of sustainable water management strategies for the Middle Rio Grande Region and to establish a process to implement the plan through an open, inclusive and participatory process.*

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE WATER ASSEMBLY
P.O. Box 25862
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125-5862

Please join us for a 3 hour educational session on Friday afternoon where experts will cover such topics as

- (1) The Compact
- (2) The Current Situation
- (3) The Sandia Model
- (4) Experience on the Pecos
- (5) Economic Consequences of USR
- (6) Environmental Consequences of USR
- (7) Agricultural Consequences of USR

These will be briefly summarized on Saturday for those who missed the earlier forum. That morning's agenda, in addition to a presentation of the Regional Water Plan, will include the two panels addressing the USR.

Created to develop the plan, the Assembly is looking to turn a new page. We are asking for input and energy, hoping that new volunteers will help to implement the plan. Saturday afternoon will be spent discussing the direction and activities that the Assembly should focus on, as well as selecting new members. Now that the plan has been completed, this is an optimum time to get involved, ensuring that the plan is put into action!

Please join us to ensure that your ideas and values are considered regarding how the Middle Rio Grande region should manage its water.



Be a part of our water future!

June 18, 2004

1:00 Registration
1:30-4:30 Program

June 19, 2004

8:00 – 9:00 Bagels & Coffee Registration
9:00 – 4:00 Program

Final agenda will be posted at
www.WaterAssembly.org.

Coping with the Urgent Shortfall Reality - Meeting Rio Grande Compact Obligations in the Years to Come

Seven years ago, residents of the region gathered to determine how best to plan for our water future. From that beginning, the Water Assembly was born. Over the years, and true to our roots, we have sought your advice as we moved through the planning process. At last we have a plan! We are now ready to turn to implement it.

The Urgent Shortfall Reality (USR) seemed an obvious first step to take. As defined in §9.3.2 of the Plan, it reads:

The initial scheduling of actions in the scenario may leave us with a Rio Grande Compact shortfall for ten to twenty years. Consequently, we would need to accelerate the implementation of our water planning actions. We would need to eliminate any projected short-term deficits in our compliance with the Rio Grande Compact until the plan's actions have had time to take effect. All users, municipal and rural, should share in the substantial contributions to the effort. The state and the region should work openly and cooperatively to address this issue. Specific urgent actions should be identified, studied, evaluated and implemented that are focused on increasing river flow to avoid defaulting on the Rio Grande Compact. These actions will have urban and rural economic impacts, but such impacts should be temporary. Water right holders must be fairly compensated for any temporary loss of use rights when water is reallocated to meet compact delivery requirements.

The issue is the likely potential for the State of New Mexico to have ongoing difficulty in meeting its downstream obligations. Many within the Region feel that it is not our Region's responsibility to consider the Compact's constrictions as it is up to the State to ensure Compact compliance. Others feel that we in the Region should make or guide the most palatable approaches, rather than wait until the US Supreme Court steps in and imposes compliance.

Given that, we thought it would be good to have a Friday afternoon educational session, followed by Saturday morning panels of local governmental and non-governmental entities discussing how we might actually manage this.

EIGHTH MIDDLE RIO GRANDE WATER ASSEMBLY
 Coping with the Urgent Shortfall Reality

JUNE 18 & 19, 2004

Name		Organization		Registration Fee \$10.00 by mail; \$15.00 at door	
Street Address		City	State		Zip Code
Phone	Fax	E-mail address			

Bagels, coffee and lunch will be provided on Saturday. Additional contributions are always appreciated. Please make checks payable to: Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly. Send registration to: Middle Rio Grande Water Assembly, P. O. Box 25862, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125-5862