

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
INTERSTATE STREAM COMMISSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF
PROPOSED NEW RULE 19.25.16 NMAC--
Regional Water Security Planning**

No. NMISC 25-01 (R)

**New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission
Water Planning Program,**

Movant.

HEARING OFFICER REPORT

Introduction

Movant New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission (NMISC or Commission) Water Planning Program (Program) submitted to the Interstate Stream Commission on July 17, 2025 a request to adopt proposed new Rule 19.25.16 NMAC—Regional Water Security Planning. The Rule was proposed to implement the 2023 Water Security Planning Act (WSPA), and would establish a framework for Regional Water Security Planning Councils to develop, maintain, and aid in implementation and tracking of Regional Water Security Plans.

On October 15-17, 2025, the Hearing Officer and a quorum of the Commission accepted comment on the proposed Rule from the Program and many others during a hybrid hearing held at the Willie Ortiz Auditorium in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The hearing was conducted in accordance with Section 1.24.25 NMAC, Default Procedural Rulemaking Procedures; NMSA 1978, Section 14-4-1, the State Rules Act; and orders issued by the Commission and Hearing Officer.

All oral comment was subject to questioning by Commissioners. Written comment was also submitted and accepted; the entirety of the record, including transcripts and exhibits, can be found on the ISC/OSE Rule Promulgation webpage. The written comments, many of which closely track with oral comment given at hearing, are not summarized separately except insofar as those recommending specific revisions or edits to the Proposed Rule are referenced in Attachment B, and those recommending more general suggestions are in Attachment C, for the Commission's reference in its deliberations.

This Report includes several attachments:

Attachment A--a close summary of the oral comment offered at hearing, with transcript pages and exhibits noted for reference.

Attachment B--the final Proposed Rule submitted by the Program, with suggested revisions by Tribal representatives, Acequia associations, state and local governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, New Mexico Water Advocates, water utility authorities, and others, shown in redline format and arranged by section for convenience during Commission deliberations.

Attachment C—an organization and index to the written comments.

Respectfully submitted,

-original signed on December 30, 2025 by-
Felicia L. Orth, Hearing Officer