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Meeting Date: August 17, 2016  
Staff Contact: Rick Shean, Water Quality Hydrologist

**TITLE: OB-16-10 - Water Protection Advisory Board 2016 Update**

**SUMMARY:**

The Water Protection Advisory Board is half-way through with its 2016 Work Plan and is reviewing water quality protection topics on behalf of the City, County and Water Authority, and has submitted its 2015 Annual Report.

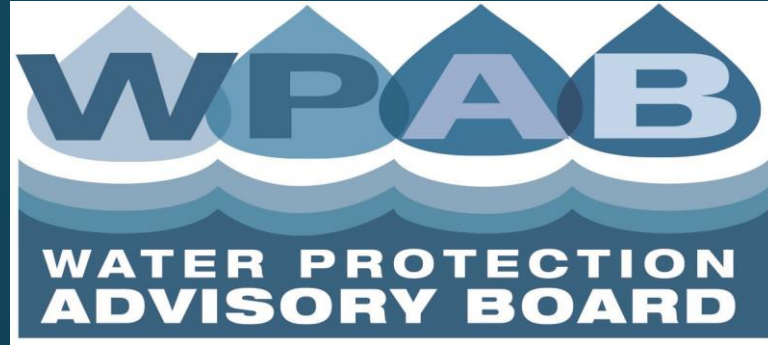
The purpose of the WPAB is to study and advise the Water Authority, City and County on surface and groundwater protection concerns, oversee the implementation of the Water Quality Protection Policy and Action Plan, and assist with the development of policies and strategies necessary to enhance protection of surface and groundwater quality in the Albuquerque Basin.

Priorities for the WPAB during 2016, which were set at the beginning of the year, are the protection of surface and groundwater quality in the Albuquerque Basin, maintaining good watershed health, and to foster intergovernmental coordination, cooperation and communication in all aspects of water quality protection.

The WPAB has identified the top areas of water quality protecting in its 2015 report, listing groundwater contamination sites, stormwater quality, septic systems, environmental restoration activities at the Sandia Laboratories, and current and potential oil and gas operations in the Middle Rio Grande Basin as areas of heightened focus for the board.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

None



# Water Protection Advisory Board

Update to the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority Governing Board

August 17, 2016

# WPAB Mission

- **Advise** the Water Authority, the City and the County on surface and ground water protection concerns
- **Oversee** Water Quality Protection Policy and Action Plan
- **Promote** consistency in agency efforts to protect surface and ground water quality
- **Advocate** effective protection of surface and ground water quality

# 2015 Accomplishments

- Served as public venue for presentations regarding the regulatory status and contents of the Mixed Waste Landfill
- Endorsed resolution regarding Citizen Action New Mexico's claims regarding contents of Sandia Labs' Mixed Waste Landfill
- Received updates on cleanup status for the Laun-Dry Site and the Fruit Ave Plume, South Valley and ATSF Albuquerque Superfund Sites
- Received updates on potential future Superfund Sites, including the West Central – Avenue site, Randolph Road and University Blvd Site and the U.S. Forest Service- CNM/Yale 1 Site
- Submittal of the 2016 Annual Report

# 2016 Priorities

- Protection of groundwater quality in the Albuquerque Basin
- Protection of surface water quality and Watershed Health
- Foster intergovernmental coordination, cooperation, and communication

# Topics / Actions in 2016

- Review of Oil and Gas Operations, Regulations and Hydraulic Fracturing
- Review of Environmental Restoration Activities at Sandia National Laboratories
- Upcoming – WPAB serving as Venue for Watershed-based Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Public meeting for City and County.

# Top Areas for Water Quality Protection

- Groundwater Contamination Sites:
  - Leaking underground storage sites
  - Superfund sites
  - Former industrial sites
  - Kirtland AFB Bulk Fuels Facility Spill Site
- Stormwater Quality:
  - Large stormwater discharge above Water Authority's San Juan Chama diversion dam
- Septic Systems:
  - Septic systems designed to seep contaminants into an environmental buffer, but local ordinance are in place to reduce impact to groundwater quality
- Sandia National Laboratories
  - Mixed Waste Landfill
  - Tijeras Arroyo Groundwater Contamination Site
  - Other environmental restoration sites
- Oil and Gas Operations in the Middle Rio Grande Basin
  - No local ordinance in place, but state regulations exist

Thank you!

Questions?