

RWPG Chairs' Conference Call  
31 TAC 357 and 358 Review and Revisions

**Purpose of Rule Revisions/Themes**

- a. Update and better align these rules to any statutory changes that have been made since the last time the rules were amended;
- b. Consolidate the rules to eliminate redundancy between rule chapters and/or sections.
- c. Simplify, clarify, and reorder the rules, as appropriate, to present the requirements in a more logical order and make the rules easier to understand and implement;
- d. Consolidate and simplify public participation and associated public notice requirements;
- e. Modify the rules in limited instances to improve the planning process;
- f. Define specific water planning requirements or processes more explicitly;
- g. Include changes to better align the agency rules with the associated requirements of other state and federal agencies;
- h. Provide greater flexibility to planning regions by defining alternative planning approaches that fit within the overall statutory requirements; and,
- i. Shift more technical portions of the rules into the agency's technical guidance document.

**Rule Revisions Timeline**

- o Early December 2011: Chairs' Conference Call and separate agencies meeting for initial input
- o **Mid-December 2011**: Distribute pre-publication draft to stakeholders (RWPG members, RWPG political subdivisions, RWPG technical consultants, state resource agencies, other interested parties)
- o January 24, 2012: Deadline for stakeholder comment via website, email, written mail with Temple as point of contact.
- o Early February 2012: Chairs' Conference Call and separate Agencies Meeting/Call for status to date and input on comments received
- o March 1, 2012: Take draft rule revisions to TWDB Board for consideration to post for public comment
- o March 2012: Post draft for 30-day public comments if approved by TWDB Board
- o April 2012: Address comments and revise draft
- o May 15, 2012: Take final rule revisions to TWDB Board for consideration to adopt

**Proposed Thematic Discussion**

357.A. Definitions .....

357.B. Designations .....

357.C. Regional Planning Group Responsibilities and Procedures .....

357.D. Guidance Principles for State and Regional Water Planning .....

357.E. Notice and Public Participation .....

357.F. Guidelines and Content for Development of Regional Water Plans .....

357.G. Adoption, Submittal, and Approval of Regional Water Plans .....

357.H. Consistency of Regional Water Plans .....

357.I. Intraregional Conflicts in Development of Regional Water Plans .....

357.J. Failure of a Regional Water Plan to Meet Regional Water Planning Requirements .....

357.K. Interregional Conflicts .....

357.L. Conflicts Between Regional Water Plans and Groundwater Management Plans .....

357.M. Amendments to Regional Water Plans .....