2. Sixth Cycle of Regional Water Planning Activities and Timelines

Working schedule available online at:
https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/planningdocu/2026/projectdocs/Working_Schedule_2026RWP.pdf

Sarah Backhouse
Manager, Regional Water Planning
RWPG Chairs Conference Call
January 26, 2021
2a. Proposed revisions to Regional and State Water Planning rules

- TWDB Board approval of proposed rules 12/16
- Public comment period open through 1/31
- [https://www.twdb.texas.gov/about/rules/index.asp](https://www.twdb.texas.gov/about/rules/index.asp)
- Submit comments to rulescomments@twdb.texas.gov
- Anticipate final rules presented to TWDB Board in April
2a. Proposed revisions to Regional and State Water Planning rules

• Key proposed changes for Regional Water Planning rules (Chapter 357):
  – Remove requirements for RWPG prioritization and IFR survey
  – New requirements regarding discussion and documentation of interregional coordination
  – Clarification that certain infrastructure costs allowed for conservation and direct reuse within a WUG boundary
2a. Proposed revisions to Regional and State Water Planning rules

– Several clarifications to reduce non-statutorily required reporting elements
– New process for adoption of errata to address minor errors

• Several clarifications regarding infeasible WMSs:
  – If no infeasible WMSs identified, must document in Technical Memorandum
  – TWDB EA will establish deadline for amendments associated with infeasible WMSs
  – Allowance for minor amendments to include increase in or new unmet needs for amendments related to removing infeasible WMSs
2a. Proposed revisions to Regional and State Water Planning rules

• Key proposed changes for State Water Planning rules (Chapter 358):
  – Clarification that RWPGs may plan for droughts worse than drought of record
  – Term ‘water management strategy project’ added to section
2b. Interregional Planning Council

• Deadline to submit nominations extended to April 22
• Must submit at least one nomination and alternate for each nomination
• Anticipate TWDB Board appointment of Council in June
2b. Interregional Planning Council

- Please submit the following information for each nominee:
  - Interest category the individual represents
  - RWPG committee membership (if applicable),
  - Brief background statement including time served on the planning group, contact information (email, phone number, and mailing address), and
  - Any other supporting information deemed relevant by the planning group.

- TWDB to provide limited assistance to the Council
2c. Contract amendments for full project cost and scope of work

• Contract amendments to include a total project cost, full scope of work, and updated guidance documents

• Overall total funding amount for 2026 RWPs similar to 2021 RWPs

• RWPGs do not need to submit a second RFA

• Anticipate TWDB Board approval to execute contract amendments in summer (date TBD)
2d. Updates to educational material

- Planning staff updating the following documents:
  - RWPG member guide
  - Administrative guidance for RWPG designated Political Subdivisions
  - Frequency asked questions
  - Educational one-pagers
  - RWP 101 presentation