

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO R309-500

The Division of Drinking Water is requesting authorization to begin rulemaking to amend R309-500, *Plan Review, Operation, and Maintenance Requirements*, to make substantive changes to the rule. The amendment applies primarily to Section R309-500-6, *Plan Approval Procedure*, and would replace the current Plan Submittal Waiver program with a similar program of Approved Standard Installation Drawings and Specifications for construction of water transmission and distribution lines.

The Division wants to replace the Plan Submittal Waiver program with something simpler and easier to use. The Division expects that a greater number of public water systems will use the proposed program than use the current waiver program (44 water systems). The Division also expects a substantial reduction in the amount of time spent by water systems and the Division to accomplish the same work.

Although there are a number of details that differ between the current waiver program and its proposed replacement, the major difference concerns the interaction between water systems and the Division of Drinking Water once the Division has approved standard installation drawings and specifications. Currently, the waiver program requires frequent interaction between a water system and the Division. A water system first applies for and is granted waiver eligibility and then must continually obtain individual or year-end plan submittal waivers from the Division.

The proposed program would eliminate the requirement for water systems to obtain waivers individually or at year's end from the Division. Once a water system has Approved Standard Installation Drawings and Specifications, it would be authorized to install water lines up to and including 16 inches in diameter for a five-year period without any further interaction with the Division.

Complete details of the proposed amendment are provided in three attached documents:

1. A table comparing the current Plan Submittal Waiver program with the proposed program
2. A marked-up version of R309-500 (Proposed changes are shown in red. New language is underlined and deleted language struck through. This DDW version of the rule includes guidance paragraphs. The guidance paragraphs are not formally part of the rule and will not be published in the Utah State Bulletin or in the final Division of Administrative Rules version of the rule.)
3. A draft one-page application that public water systems would use to request approval of Standard Installation Drawings and Specifications for construction of water transmission and distribution lines

Staff Recommendation: authorize Division staff to begin the rulemaking process to amend R309-500 and to file the proposed rule for publication in the Utah State Bulletin on August 15, 2017.