

## **North Front Range Water Quality Planning Association Utility Plan Policy**

Approved December 11, 2008

### **Purpose:**

Wastewater Utility Plans are planning tools that can assist wastewater utilities in planning for wastewater collection system and treatment system changes. Utility plans are critical in determining how wastewater service will be provided to urbanized portions of the region and special case locations that have a permitted wastewater treatment facility. These plans will help to simplify and streamline the process by which utilities seek site approvals and 208 plan amendments through the NFRWQPA. The goal of the NFRWQPA is to have all public permitted wastewater treatment systems in the NFRWQPA region obtain an approved utility plan from the Association.

### **Policy:**

Beginning January 1, 2008, the NFRWQPA will require that all public wastewater treatment agencies submitting any of the following:

- site application (for new or expanded domestic treatment works, interceptors not eligible for certification, and lift stations)
- plan amendment request including service area boundary change
- district formation and designation

have an accepted or conditionally accepted Utility Plan prior to formal consideration of the Association as a whole. Consideration by the Association as a whole of any of the three options above will be done sequentially either at the same or different meeting of the Association. Other agencies, not falling into these categories (non-public entities such as mobile home parks, HOAs, or camp grounds), will include utility plan information in conjunction with the submittal of any of the above listed requests.

The NFRWQPA will not require public permitted wastewater treatment systems within the region to obtain an approved utility plan if there is not a need to:

- change the treatment plant capacity
- modify the service area
- upgrade the treatment works

The NFRWQPA has developed a Utility Plan Guidance document to assist agencies in developing their plan that outlines what information is needed. Included in this guidance document is the acceptance procedure the Association uses to accept or conditionally accept plans, which includes time estimates required for the entire process.

The amount of detail included in the plans will vary depending on facility complexity and size. Major wastewater providers will be expected to provide all minimum information as recommended by the guidance. The utility planning process will remain flexible for minor wastewater providers. However, sufficient planning information must be shown so there will not be negative water quality effects caused by any proposed new facility, facility expansion, or change to service area.

Plans will be reviewed by the Utility Plan Review Committee. The Committee will be made up of Association representatives appointed by the Executive Committee. An effort will be made by the Executive Committee to appoint members that represent the diverse make up of the association including small communities, large communities, special districts, and counties.