



State of Oregon
Water Resources Department
 725 Summer Street NE, Suite A,
 Salem, OR 97301
 (503) 986 – 0900

*Invitation
 to provide* **COMMENT**

NOTICE OF OPEN COMMENT PERIOD AND RULEMAKING HEARING

OAR Chapter 690

SUBJECT The Oregon Water Resources Department (Department) is proposing amendments to existing administrative rules to make them consistent with existing statute and to affect various technical changes. The Department filed notice of this rulemaking in the *Oregon Bulletin* published by the Secretary of State on October 1, 2011. Under ORS 183.335(2)(b)(G), the Department is also requesting public comment on whether other options should be considered for achieving the rule’s substantive goals while reducing negative economic impact of the rule on business.

The written comment period closes at 5:00 PM, Monday, October 31, 2011.

HOW TO COMMENT: Send comments or other materials expressing your opinion

by mail to: Oregon Water Resources Department
 725 Summer Street NE, Suite A
 Salem, OR 97301-1271
 ATTN: Ruben E. Ochoa

by fax to: (503) 986-0903, Attn: Ruben E. Ochoa; or

by e-mail to: Ruben.E.Ochoa@state.or.us; or rule-coordinator@ wrd.state.or.us

Letters need not be typed, but should be legible, as should any other materials you send. In addition, you can speak or submit written comments at the following public hearing:

10/24/2011	3-4 pm	725 Summer St. NE, Salem OR [N. Mall Office Bldg; Conf. Rm. 124(b)]	Tom Paul
Hearing Date	Time	Location	Hearings Officer

Auxiliary aids for persons with disabilities are available upon advance request.

To find out more about this rulemaking or to obtain a copy of the rules visit http://www.wrd.state.or.us/cgi-bin/notices.pl?oar_notices or contact Ruben E. Ochoa at the Department at (503) 986-0874.

BACKGROUND:

This rulemaking is needed to bring several Oregon Water Resources Department administrative rules into conformity with Oregon statute. With respect to this effort, the rules propose changes to OAR chapter 690 division 300 regarding commercial uses allowed under exempt groundwater use statutes and changes to OAR chapter 690 divisions 018, 310, 380 and 382 regarding public notice requirements. In addition, this rulemaking is needed to streamline mapping requirements under OAR chapter 690, divisions 310 and 380 and to make non-substantive technical changes to OAR chapter 690, divisions 013, 053, 077, and 380.

POSSIBLE FISCAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED RULES:

The Department does not anticipate that adoption of the proposed rules would have any negative fiscal and/or economic impacts, in large part, because the proposal brings administrative rule into conformity with existing statute. The Department does anticipate that this proposal has the potential to reduce costs for water right and water right transfer applicants in meeting mapping requirements.

THE REVIEW PROCESS:

Please present your comments by speaking at the public hearing listed above, or by sending your written comments by mail, email, or fax to the Water Resources Department at the address listed above. Written comments must be received no later than 5:00 PM, Monday, October 31, 2011. It will be your responsibility to verify that faxed or emailed comments are received.

The Water Resources Commission is likely to consider these proposed rules at its meeting in January 2012. The Water Resources Commission may choose to receive additional oral public comment and written testimony on the proposed rules as part of an agenda item at any future Commission meeting. Written testimony presented to the Commission after the public comment period has closed will be limited to specific language suggestions related to changes made by the Department from the public hearing draft rules to the final proposed rules.

For copies of the proposed rules or further information on the public hearings, contact Ruben E. Ochoa at (503) 986-0874. You may also obtain a copy of the existing rules on the Department's web page at <http://www.wrd.state.or.us/>.

Note: The services, programs and activities of the Department are covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities. The Department intends to comply with the ADA. If you are interested and need special accommodations to participate in the public hearings, please contact the Department at (503) 986-0878, at least 48 hours prior to the hearing.