



(760) 878-0001
FAX: (760) 878-2552

EMAIL: mail@inyowater.org
WEB: <http://www.inyowater.org>

P.O. Box 337
135 South Jackson Street
Independence, CA 93526

**COUNTY OF INYO
WATER DEPARTMENT**

April 4, 2016

TO: Local agencies, water suppliers, stakeholders, and interested parties

FROM: Inyo County Water Department

SUBJECT: Submittal of a proposal to modify the boundaries of the Owen Valley Groundwater Basins by Inyo County Water Department to the California Department of Water Resources

The Inyo County Water Department has submitted a request to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to modify the boundaries of the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin 6-12). Currently, DWR has not designated any subbasins in the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin. The Water Department is requesting that DWR designate two subbasins, one consisting of Benton, Hammil, and Chalfant Valleys; and the other consisting of Round Valley and Owens Valley. The request will enhance local agencies ability to comply with the requirements of California's new groundwater management law, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014. Extensive information related to this request can be examined on DWR's web site at <http://sgma.water.ca.gov/basinmod/basinrequest/preview/6>. DWR will be accepting public comment on the Water Department's request through April 28, 2016.

The California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Chapter 1.5, Subchapter 1, Article 4, Section 343.12 gives the following procedures and requirements for public input concerning this (and other) requests for basin boundary modifications:

§ 343.12. Public Input

(a) Any person may provide information to support or oppose a proposed boundary modification request as follows:

(1) Public input must be submitted by written notice to the Department [DWR] within 30 days after the Department [DWR] posts a notice that the request is complete pursuant to Section 343.10(c), and provide the requesting agency a duplicate copy of that information the same day.

(2) Public input must include the name, address, and electronic mail address of the person or entity providing that input.

(3) Public input must include a clear statement of the basis for the support of or opposition to the proposed boundary modification.

(4) The level of detail provided by public input need not be as comprehensive as that contained in the request, but must rely on similar scientific and technical information as the particular boundary modification request to which it is addressed, and will be evaluated by the Department [DWR] using the same criteria.

(b) The Department [DWR] shall post all public input on the Department's [DWR] Internet Web site.

(c) The Department [DWR] is not required to respond to comments received through public input, but will consider such comments as part of its evaluation of a boundary modification request.

(d) The Department [DWR] shall give the requesting agency a reasonable opportunity to respond to public input, including the opportunity to modify the boundary modification request.

Written comments to DWR should be submitted through the Basin Boundary Modification Request System (BBMRS), which may be accessed here: <http://sgma.water.ca.gov/basinmod/>. Instructions for using the BBMRS are attached.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Bob Harrington at the Inyo County Water Department (760) 878-0001; bharrington@inyocounty.us.