

SUMMARY OF WATER COUNCIL MEETING

Pooler, GA

August 23, 2007

Dr. Couch's staff will reissue the draft water plan as a document, not as rule. She expects to follow the general outline she originally introduced. The plan will outline policies and implementation, including those areas that will require rulemaking. It will include a "charge" to implement rulemaking through the appropriate agency, usually DNR. It is important to note, as some did in comments, that some areas do not require new rulemaking and are already under the authority of EPD. An example of rules for interbasin transfers does not currently exist. As a narrative document, it will be identified what can be implemented through rules and what can be implemented through guidance documents.

Dr. Couch will revise the plan, incorporate some of the changes already received during the Aug 18 comment period. The revised draft will clearly identify the changes so that the Water Council can identify the changes for vote. Dr. Couch will include some sort of table of changes. Chris Clark additionally suggested for the Definitions section to leave the existing definition, but suggest an alternate definition.

Summary of major themes in comments received by Friday August 17, 2007 COB

- Plan format as a rule
- Flexibility and generalities leading to uncertainty and discretion
- Definitions
- Funding
- Other – mentioned a few comments in each section of the plan.

Dr. Couch's three-year budget will include a timeframe and plan for implementation (including what will be contracted and deliverables).

Proposed Schedule

9/13/07	Reissue revised draft to Water Council and post to website
9/20/07	Water Council Meeting (full day) to vote on changes to draft
10/01/07	Public Notice (30 days)
10/15-19/07	Public Meeting (12 sites)
10/30/07	End of comment period
11/009/07	Water Council Meeting (full day)
11/16/07	Public Notice final draft (15 days)
	Possible 2 nd round of Public Hearings
11/30/07	End of comment period
12/07/08	Summary of comments
12/13/07	Draft to Water Council
12/21/07	Water Council Meeting to approve final