

MAG 208 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT PROCESS

Estimated Time from the First Water Quality Advisory Committee Meeting
Until Regional Council Approval is Approximately 3 Months

1. Request to Amend the MAG 208 Plan - The jurisdiction (MAG member agency) in which the facility would be located initiates a request to include the new wastewater treatment plant in the 208 Plan. It is recommended that the jurisdiction making the request contact any adjacent community if the proposed development is within three miles of the boundary between the two communities. Prior to the official request, the jurisdiction may also request an informal review of the draft 208 amendment by MAG staff to ensure that all pertinent items have been addressed in the document.
2. MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee - The MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee reviews the draft 208 Plan amendment against the 208 Plan and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality 208 checklist. The 208 checklist includes: Authority; Twenty-Year Needs; Regulations; Construction; Financing and Other Measures Necessary to Carry Out the Plan; Implementability; and Public Participation.

The committee then authorizes a public hearing to be conducted. According to federal regulations, the hearing must be advertised 45 days in advance and the document must be available for public review 30 days prior to the hearing. A hearing notice is also sent to interested parties 30 days prior to the public hearing.

The public hearing is conducted by MAG. A court reporter prepares an official transcript of the hearing. If written or verbal comments are received, a response to comments is prepared by the entity requesting the amendment.

At the same meeting in which the public hearing is held, the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee reviews the comments received and then makes a recommendation to the MAG Management Committee. In general, the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee meetings are conducted on an as needed basis.

3. MAG Management Committee - The MAG Management Committee reviews the recommendation from the Water Quality Advisory Committee. The Management Committee then makes a recommendation to the MAG Regional Council. In general, the MAG Management Committee meets on a monthly basis.
4. MAG Regional Council - The MAG Regional Council reviews the recommendation from the Management Committee. The Regional Council then takes official action to approve the 208 Plan amendment. The Regional Council is the decision-making body of MAG. In general, the MAG Regional Council meets on a monthly basis.
5. State Water Quality Management Working Group - The State Water Quality Management Working Group reviews the 208 Plan amendment approved by the MAG Regional Council. The Working Group then makes a recommendation to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. In general, the State Water Quality Management Working Group meets every other month.
6. Arizona Department of Environmental Quality - The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality certifies that the 208 Plan amendment is consistent with the Arizona Water Quality Management Plan and the MAG 208 Plan. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality submits the 208 Plan amendment to the Environmental Protection Agency for approval.
7. Environmental Protection Agency - The Environmental Protection Agency approves the 208 Plan amendment and notifies the State of the approval action.