

**46-709. Ground water management plan; required; contents.**

Each district shall maintain a ground water management plan based upon the best available information and shall submit amendments to such plan to the Director of Natural Resources for review and approval.

The plan shall include, but not be limited to, the identification to the extent possible of:

- (1) Ground water supplies within the district including transmissivity, saturated thickness maps, and other ground water reservoir information, if available;
- (2) Local recharge characteristics and rates from any sources, if available;
- (3) Average annual precipitation and the variations within the district;
- (4) Crop water needs within the district;
- (5) Current ground water data-collection programs;
- (6) Past, present, and potential ground water use within the district;
- (7) Ground water quality concerns within the district;
- (8) Proposed water conservation and supply augmentation programs for the district;
- (9) The availability of supplemental water supplies, including the opportunity for ground water recharge;
- (10) The opportunity to integrate and coordinate the use of water from different sources of supply;
- (11) Ground water management objectives, including a proposed ground water reservoir life goal for the district. For management plans adopted or revised after July 19, 1996, the ground water management objectives may include any proposed integrated management objectives for hydrologically connected ground water and surface water supplies but a management plan does not have to be revised prior to the adoption or implementation of an integrated management plan pursuant to section 46-718 or 46-719;
- (12) Existing subirrigation uses within the district;
- (13) The relative economic value of different uses of ground water proposed or existing within the district; and
- (14) The geographic and stratigraphic boundaries of any proposed management area.

If the expenses incurred by a district preparing or amending a ground water management plan exceed twenty-five percent of the district's current budget, the district may make application to the Nebraska Resources Development Fund for assistance.

Each district's ground water management plan shall also identify, to the extent possible, the levels and sources of ground water contamination within the district, ground water quality goals,

long-term solutions necessary to prevent the levels of ground water contaminants from becoming too high and to reduce high levels sufficiently to eliminate health hazards, and practices recommended to stabilize, reduce, and prevent the occurrence, increase, or spread of ground water contamination.

**Source:** Laws 1982, LB 375, § 3; Laws 1983, LB 378, § 3; Laws 1984, LB 1106, § 37; R.S.1943, (1993), § 46-673.01; Laws 1996, LB 108, § 18; Laws 2000, LB 900, § 191; Laws 2003, LB 619, § 12; R.S.Supp.,2003, § 46-656.12; Laws 2004, LB 962, § 49.

**46-710. Ground water management plan preparation or modification; district; solicit and utilize information.**

During preparation or modification of a ground water management plan, the district shall actively solicit public comments and opinions and shall utilize and draw upon existing research, data, studies, or any other information which has been compiled by or is in the possession of state or federal agencies, natural resources districts, or any other subdivision of the state. State agencies, districts, and other subdivisions shall furnish information or data upon the request of any district preparing or modifying such a plan. A district shall not be required to initiate new studies or data-collection efforts or to develop computer models in order to prepare or modify a plan.

**Source:** Laws 1982, LB 375, § 4; R.S.1943, (1993), § 46-673.02; Laws 1996, LB 108, § 19; R.S.1943, (1998), § 46-656.13; Laws 2004, LB 962, § 50.

**46-711. Ground water management plan; director; review; duties.**

(1) The Director of Natural Resources shall review any ground water management plan or plan modification submitted by a district to ensure that the best available studies, data, and information, whether previously existing or newly initiated, were utilized and considered and that such plan is supported by and is a reasonable application of such information. If a management area is proposed and the primary purpose of the proposed management area is protection of water quality, the director shall consult with the Department of Environmental Quality regarding approval or denial of the management plan. The director shall consult with the Conservation and Survey Division of the University of Nebraska and such other state or federal agencies the director shall deem necessary when reviewing plans. Within ninety days after receipt of a plan, the director shall transmit his or her specific findings, conclusions, and reasons for approval or disapproval to the district submitting the plan.

(2) If the Director of Natural Resources disapproves a ground water management plan, the district which submitted the plan shall, in order to establish a management area, submit to the director either the original or a revised plan with an explanation of how the original or revised plan addresses the issues raised by the director in his or her reasons for disapproval. Once a district has submitted an explanation pursuant to this section, such district may proceed to schedule a hearing pursuant to section 46-712.

**Source:** Laws 1982, LB 375, § 5; Laws 1986, LB 894, § 27; Laws 1993, LB 3, § 12; R.S.1943, (1993), § 46-673.03; Laws 1996, LB 108, § 20; Laws 2000, LB 900, § 192; R.S.Supp.,2002, § 46-656.14; Laws 2004, LB 962, § 51.

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