

**Comments from URGWOPS Public Scoping Meeting;
Española, New Mexico; Northern New Mexico Community College;
July 26, 2000**

Following is a summary of the questions, comments, and issues raised during the discussion that followed the formal presentation on the purpose and objectives of the Upper Rio Grande Basin Water Operations Review and EIS at the scoping meeting in Taos, New Mexico. They are presented in the order they were discussed.

/?/Comment. Is this a true NEPA process, without a predetermined Preferred Alternative? Who selects the Preferred Alternative? Will there be one Preferred Alternative or an array of options?

/?/Comment. People in the Española valley are suspicious that they will be called upon to provide water to the middle Rio Grande valley for the silvery minnow because the people in the upper watershed feel they have less political clout. Acequias above Otowi gage are concerned about getting bought out to satisfy the needs of the minnow.

/?/Comment. It might be useful to present information on URGWOPS to the regional water planning board.

/?/Comment. How will traditional cultural properties (TCP) in and near the river be addressed?