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ART. 38. WATER RESOURCES

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(l) Each unit of local government that provides public water services or that plans to provide such service shall, either individually or together with other such units of local government, prepare a local water supply plan. The Department shall provide technical assistance with the preparation of such plans to units of local government upon request and to the extent that the Department has resources available to provide such assistance. At a minimum, local units of government shall include in local water supply plans such information as is readily available to them. However this subsection shall be construed to require the preparation of local water supply plans only to the extent that technical assistance is available to units of local government from the Department. Such plans shall include present and projected population and water use within the service area, present and future water supplies, an estimate of such technical assistance as may be needed at the local level to address projected water needs, and such other related information as the Department may require in the preparation of a State water supply plan. Local plans shall be revised to reflect changes in relevant data and projections at least once each five years unless the Department requests more frequent revisions. Local plans and revised plans shall be submitted to the Department once they have been approved by the unit(s) of local government.

(m) In order to assure the availability of adequate supplies of good quality water to protect the public health and to support desirable economic growth, the Department shall develop a State water supply plan. The State water supply plan shall include the information and projections required to be included in local plans, a summary of the technical assistance needs indicated by local plans, and shall indicate the extent to which the various local plans are compatible. The State plan shall identify potential conflicts among the various local plans and ways in which local water supply programs could be better coordinated. (1959, c. 779, s. 3; 1961, c. 315; 1967, c. 1069, ss. 1-3; c. 1070, s. 1; c. 1071, ss. 3, 4; c. 1117, s. 1; 1973, c. 1262, ss. 23, 28, 86; 1977, c. 771, s. 4; 1981, c. 514, ss. 2, 3; 1989, c. 603, s. 1.)