



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

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P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049

January 6, 2011

Re: Proposed amendments addressing Water Quality Standards use designation rules in Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Chapter 3745-1

Dear Interested Party:

This letter is to make you aware of, and solicit your input on, the Agency's proposed revisions to the following rules in OAC Chapter 3745-1.

Rule #	Rule Title	Action
3745-1-10	Grand river drainage basin.	Amend
3745-1-12	Sandusky river drainage basin.	Amend
3745-1-19	Huron river drainage basin.	Amend
3745-1-21	Great Miami river drainage basin.	Amend
3745-1-23	Portage river drainage basin.	Amend
3745-1-24	Muskingum river drainage basin.	Amend
3745-1-25	Mahoning river drainage basin.	Amend
3745-1-30	Mill creek drainage basin.	Amend

As part of our mission to protect Ohio's water quality, the Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water conducts water quality and biological surveys of Ohio's rivers and streams. One outcome of this work is an assessment of the beneficial uses assigned to specific water bodies in the State's water quality standards rules. The Clean Water Act (CWA) requires all states to conduct such assessments and to designate waters for beneficial uses that support the CWA "fishable and swimmable" goals wherever attainable. All waters are presumed to be capable of supporting goal uses unless the state provides a use attainability analysis (UAA) explaining the reasons why the goals of protecting aquatic life and recreation cannot be attained in the water.

Enclosed is the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. A public hearing is scheduled in Columbus on **February 10, 2011** as described in the enclosed notice. The enclosed notice also explains how to submit comments. The Agency welcomes your comments on the proposed rule revisions. Please note the comment period ends on **February 10, 2011**.

If you would like a copy of the proposed rules and a fact sheet explaining the proposed rules, or if you have any questions about the rulemaking, please contact Chris Skalski at

Ted Strickland, Governor
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor
Chris Korleski, Director

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(614) 644-2144 or by email at chris.skalski@epa.state.oh.us. The proposed rules and fact sheet are also posted on the Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water website at www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/Home.aspx.

If you would prefer to receive Division of Surface Water rulemaking notices via email, please send your name and email address to dsw_rulecomments@epa.state.oh.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Elmaraghy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

George Elmaraghy, P.E., Chief
Division of Surface Water

GE:bh
Enclosure