



John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Craig W. Butler, Director

January 11, 2019

Re: Availability of rules for comment
OAC Chapter 3745-6, Water Quality Certified Professional (WQCP) Program

Dear Interested Parties:

The Division of Surface Water (DSW) is providing interested parties opportunity to review and comment on the following new rules, which will be housed in Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Chapter 3745-6:

Rule #	Rule Title	Action
3745-6-01	Purpose, applicability, and available certifications.	New
3745-6-02	Definitions.	New
3745-6-03	General education and professional experience requirements, professional certifications and requirements for certification, approved trainers, testing, and professional development requirements.	New
3745-6-04	Application for initial certification and renewal of certification.	New
3745-6-05	Technical standards.	New
3745-6-06	Data collection and submittal; document and data review, retention, and production.	New
3745-6-07	Standards of conduct, suspension, revocation, recertification, withdrawal, and appeal.	New
3745-6-08	Audits.	New
3745-6-09	Permit issuance and fees.	New

In July 2017, Governor Kasich signed Senate Bill 2 of the 132nd General Assembly into law. This legislation requires Ohio EPA to develop a program to certify water quality professionals to collect data in order for the Agency to assess streams and categorize wetlands in support of applications for Section 401 Water Quality Certifications and Isolated Wetland Permits. The legislation also requires the Director to establish a multi-sector work group to assist in the development of rules adopted under this statute (Ohio Revised Code 6111.30), and lays out minimum requirements for such rules. Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Chapter 3745-6 will contain the administrative requirements for the purpose of certifying water quality professionals to assess streams and categorize wetlands in support of applications for Section 401 Water Quality Certifications and Isolated Wetland Permits.

In addition to the draft rules, Ohio EPA is also seeking comments and feedback on the draft Common Sense Initiative (CSI) Business Impact Analysis Form, which is being released with these rules for review.

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The draft rules, the CSI form and supporting documents are available electronically for review at: <http://epa.ohio.gov/dsw/dswrules.aspx>. We request that you provide us with any comments you may have on the rules that have been recommended **by February 25, 2019**.

Please submit your comments or suggestions in one of the following manners.

By e-mail: dsw_rulecomments@epa.ohio.gov

By mail: Rule Coordinator
Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049

By fax: (614) 644-2745

Sincerely,



for

Tiffani Kavalec
Chief, Division of Surface Water

TK:ed