

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.

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Michael R. Pence

Carol S. Comer Commissioner

April 1, 2016

Mr. Peter Swenson, Chief Watershed and Wetlands Branch United States Environmental Protection Agency Region V 77 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Mr. Swenson:

RE: Indiana's 2016 Integrated Report and Draft 303(d) List of Impaired Waters

This letter accompanies the 2016 Indiana Integrated Water Monitoring and Assessment Report (IR) and the state's draft 2016 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. These documents are being submitted per requirements under Sections 305(b) and 303(d), respectively, of the Clean Water Act and 40 CFR 130. Indiana has submitted both the 305(b) and the 303(d) components of the Integrated Report together via email.

For the 2016 submission, Indiana has chosen to follow, to the degree possible, the 305(b) and 303(d) reporting methods outlined in the U.S. EPA's guidance document entitled, "Guidance for 2006 Assessment, Listing and Reporting Requirements Pursuant to Sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314 of the Clean Water Act" published in February, 2005, and the additional guidance provided in the following documents: U.S. EPA memorandum "Information Concerning 2008 Clean Water Act Sections 303(d), 305(b), and 314 Integrated Reporting and Listing Decisions" published in 2006; U.S. EPA memorandum "Information Concerning 2010 Clean Water Act Sections 303(d), 305(b), and 314 Integrated Reporting and Listing Decisions" published in 2009; and the U.S. EPA memorandum "Information Concerning 2012 Clean Water Act Sections 303(d), 305(b), and 314 Integrated Reporting and Listing Decisions" published in 2011; U.S. EPA memorandum "Information Concerning 2014 Clean Water Act Sections 303(d), 305(b), and 314 Integrated Reporting and Listing Decisions" published in 2013; and U.S. EPA memorandum "Information Concerning 2016 Clean Water Act Sections 303(d), 305(b), and 314 Integrated Reporting and Listing Decisions" published in 2015.

Indiana's 305(b) submission includes the narrative Indiana Integrated Water Monitoring and Assessment Report 2016 and a number of appendices including:

- Report tables.
- Report figures.
- Metadata for the report.
- Update on the status of Category 4 waters.
- Indiana's short and long term TMDL schedules (required as part of Indiana's 303(d) submittal).
- IDEM's 305(b)/303(d) monitoring, assessment, reporting and listing schedule
- Comprehensive aquatic life use and recreational use assessments.
- Indiana's Consolidated List (Categories 1-5).
- Trophic status and trends of Indiana's lakes.
- Summaries of hydrolgeologic settings and ground water quality in Indiana.



Indiana's 303(d) submission includes:

- The Notice of Comment Period for the draft 2016 303(d) list (in publication), which includes IDEM's Consolidated Assessment and Listing Methodology and explanation of the changes made to the finalized 2014 303(d) list since its submittal to U.S. EPA on September 25, 2015.
- Draft assessment methodology for the assessment of waters designated for public water supply.
- IDEM's Total Maximum Daily Load Program (TMDL) priority framework and development schedule.
- An update on the status of all Category 4 waters in Indiana.
- Indiana's current draft 303(d) List of Impaired Waters, which includes Categories 5A and 5B of the state's Consolidated List.

You will also find enclosed a CD that contains IDEM's Assessment Database for the 2016 cycle and the Reach Index shapefiles for use in georeferencing the waterbodies in these documents to the National Hydrography Database.

Indiana's draft 2016 303(d) list will soon be published for public comment for a period of 90 days. In keeping with U.S. EPA guidance, after the public comment period ends, IDEM will provide U.S. EPA full text copies of all comments received along with summarized comments and IDEM's responses and any additional changes to the draft 2016 303(d) list needed as a result of information provided by the public.

We look forward to receiving U.S. EPA's formal decision regarding the disposition of Indiana's 2012 and 2014 303(d) lists and have developed the draft 2016 303(d) list based on the belief that this decision is forthcoming.

In the meantime, it is our understanding that with this transmittal, all required components of the 2016 Integrated Report (submitted pursuant to Section 305(b) of the CWA) and the draft 2016 303(d) List of Impaired Waters are complete and ready for U.S. EPA review. If you have any questions, please contact Jody Arthur (317-308-3179) or me (317-308-3235).

Sincerely,

Marylou Poppa Renshaw, Chief

Watershed Assessment and Planning Branch

Office of Water Quality