Missouri River Communities Network
Reconnecting People with their Natural Heritage

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WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

September 16, 2013

Missouri Clean Water Commission
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

RE: Proposed ruling in the 10 CSR 20-7.031 Water Quality Standards

Commission Members:

The Missouri River Communities Network (MRCN) is a 501c3 non-profit organization that works to enhance stewardship of the Missouri River. The organization is also a member of the Missouri Stream Team Program and the Missouri Stream Team Watershed Coalition. MSTWC is made up of representatives from Stream Team Associations throughout the state. The Missouri Stream Team Program represents over 80,000 citizen volunteers, over 4,000 Stream Teams, and 18 Associations all working across the state to protect and improve our waterways.

As one of the original founding members of MSTWC, MRCN would first like to commend the Missouri Department of Natural Resources for carrying out a stakeholder process to produce the proposed ruling in the 10 CSR 20-7.031 Water Quality Standards. We understand the need to balance interest such as water users, agriculture, recreation, and the resources when creating rulings to protect our water resources or any natural resource. We feel the proposed ruling does reach a type of compromise when considering a variety of interest and the economic impact. MRCN supports the proposed ruling and realizes this is a huge step in the right direction. We also understand improvements can be made to the proposed ruling in the future and we look forward to being part of that process.

We hope you, as members of the Clean Water Commission, understand the importance of approving this ruling. MRCN hopes Missouri can finally join the rest of our nation by classifying more of our waters leading to better protection and improvement of this precious resource.

Sincerely,

Steve H. Johnson
Executive Director

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