



PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO INITIATE TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF MISSOURI WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

In accordance with Section 303(c)(1) of the federal Clean Water Act, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources hereby gives notice of its intent to initiate a review of Missouri's Water Quality Standards ("WQS"). This review is being conducted to evaluate the need to update or revise state WQS in order to remain consistent with state and federal law. The review will also ensure Missouri's WQS continue to reflect the best available science and support sound water quality management policies that improve and protect the unique and diverse water resources of the state.

With this notice the department is soliciting comments from interested parties and members of the public on any aspect of the WQS that the department should consider for potential revision. Comments should include the matter at issue, whether it is currently covered by the WQS, and if so where, any suggested revision and the basis for the suggested revision. Any technical information, reports or data supporting the suggested change should be included.

The department is initiating (or in some cases continuing) discussion on the following topics relative to water quality standards:

- Nutrient criteria for lakes (partial approval/partial disapproval),
- Sulfate and chloride criteria (disapproved), including default values,
- New federal recommended ammonia criteria,
- New federal recommended bacteria criteria,
- Update other criteria to reflect federal recommended criteria (removed from last rule),
- Wetland Classifications,
- Nutrient criteria development for streams,
- Wetland water quality criteria,
- Regional dissolved oxygen criteria, and
- Use attainability analyses.

All of the topics listed above may not be included in the next triennial review rule package. Some topics may require more lengthy technical review and discussion prior to moving forward with rule promulgation. Therefore, it is likely that the next triennial review rulemaking will move forward with a subset of the topics under consideration, with the remainder being deferred to a future rulemaking.

Stakeholders interested in commenting on the above topics or adding additional topics for discussion should submit those in writing to the department. Comments should be submitted to John Hoke, Chief of the Watershed Protection Section, at john.hoke@dnr.mo.gov. **Comments should include the name of the commenter and the organization which they are representing, if appropriate, and be submitted no later than June 15, 2014** for consideration during this triennial review.

The department expects to complete its review of the WQS, including any comments received in response to this notice, by June 30, 2014. Any comments received and the results of the triennial review will be communicated to the public through the Water Protection Forum and the Water Protection Program's "Rules in Development" web page. Based on the results of the review, the department may propose changes to the WQS. Any proposed changes will take place through the regulatory adoption process as provided by Sections 536.016, 640.015, and 644.026 Missouri Revised Statutes. Prior to adoption, notice will be published and a public hearing will be held to receive formal comment on the proposed WQS revisions. Final action to adopt any revisions to the WQS will be conducted by the Missouri Clean Water Commission.

Additional information on the Water Quality Standards and the Triennial Review process is available on the Department's website at dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/wqstandards/index.html. Anyone requiring more information may contact the department by phone at 573-751-1300.