



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 7**

11201 Renner Boulevard  
Lenexa, Kansas 66219

**DEC 26 2019**

Mr. Ed Galbraith  
Director, Division of Environment Quality  
Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Dear Mr. Galbraith:

Under Section 303(c) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1313(c) and Title 40, parts 131.20 and 131.21 of the Code of Federal Regulations, states must review their Water Quality Standards at least every three years and submit any new or revised WQS to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for review and approval or disapproval. As Director of Region 7 EPA Water Division, I am charged with the responsibility of reviewing and approving or disapproving new and revised WQS under Section 303(c).

On April 16, 2018, the EPA received the submittal of new and revised water quality standards under a cover letter dated April 13, 2018. The new and revised WQS were formally adopted by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources on January 4, 2018, were published in the Missouri Register on October 16, 2017, and became effective under state law on April 30, 2018. The WQS submittal package included a certification letter from the Office of the State Attorney General dated March 27, 2018. The MDNR also provided further clarification on elements of the Multiple Discharge Variance Framework in their letter to the EPA dated August 16, 2019. On December 14, 2018, the EPA acted on the nutrient criteria provisions in the submission. On July 30, 2019, the EPA acted on several other portions in the submission, including certain definitions, the Missouri Use Designation Database, certain specific criteria, paragraphs A and C of the variance authorizing provision, and the chronic cadmium criteria.

Today, the EPA is approving the following provisions: 1) new and revised WQS included in the Missouri Code of State regulations, 10 CSR 20-7.031(12)(B), WQS portions of the "Missouri Multiple Discharger Variance Framework from the Water Quality Standards of Total Ammonia Nitrogen, CWC-MDV-1-17" and associated Multiple Discharger Variance(s); 2) New and Revised Aquatic Life Criteria for 30 Pollutant Parameters; and 3) 10 CSR 20-7.031(1)(EE) Revised Waters of the State definition.

**WQS on which the EPA is Continuing Review**

- 10 CSR 20-7.031(5)(E): Revised pH Definition
- Table J: [New 'place-holder' for "Water Quality Standards Variances"]
- Two errors (Table I which was inadvertently truncated during the last rulemaking, and aquatic life protection values for 2,4-dichlorophenol and hexachlorocyclopentadiene that were accidentally omitted from the final version of Table A1) which the State plans to remedy in rulemaking effort currently in progress.

The enclosure to this letter provides a more detailed description of the EPA's rationale for approving the new or revised WQS. We look forward to continuing to work with the MDNR to update its WQS through the triennial review process. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (913) 551-7146.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffery Robichaud". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Jeffery Robichaud  
Director  
Water Division

Enclosure

cc: Chris Wieberg, MDNR  
John Hoke, MDNR  
Karen Herrington, USFWS  
Corey Buffo, EPA HQ