



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:
WW-16J

July 9, 2020

Mr. James A. Zellmer
Deputy Administrator
Division of Environmental Management
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street, Box 7921
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7921

Dear Mr. Zellmer:

Thank you for your June 10, 2020 letter submitting Wisconsin's site-specific criteria for phosphorus for Castle Rock Lake, Petenwell Lake, and Lake Wisconsin.

Consistent with Section 303(c) of the CWA and federal regulations at Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) § 131.21, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is required to review and approve new or revised state water quality standards (WQS). As detailed in the enclosed review document, EPA determined that Wisconsin's submitted site-specific criteria are consistent with the requirements of the CWA and applicable federal regulations. EPA therefore approves the revised WQS.

As required by Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and federal regulations at 50 CFR 402, EPA evaluated whether approval of this variance would affect federally-listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat. As described in the biological evaluation, EPA determined that the action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, one or more listed aquatic, aquatic-dependent or wetland species. EPA has initiated but not completed consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

In addition to the approval of the revised WQS, the EPA is also approving the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for phosphorus for Lake Wisconsin. EPA has determined that this TMDL meets the requirements of Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and EPA's implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 130. Therefore, EPA approves Wisconsin's TMDL for Lake Wisconsin, as described in the Decision Document for the approval of the Wisconsin River Basin TMDLs dated April 26, 2019. The approval of these revised WQS and the TMDL means that the revised phosphorus allocations contained in Table 9 and 10 of the TMDL Decision Document and Appendix K of the TMDL (incorporated by reference in the decision) are now effective.

If your staff has any questions regarding this approval, please contact Micah Bennett of my staff at (312) 886-7946 or bennett.micah@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Tera L. Fong Digitally signed by Tera L. Fong
Date: 2020.07.09
12:58:20 -05'00'

Tera L.Fong
Division Director, Water Division

Enclosure

cc via email w/ enclosures:

Adrian Stocks, WDNR
Marcia Willhite, WDNR
Robin Nyffeler, WDNR
Kevin Kirsch, WDNR
Pat Oldenburg, WDNR
Wade Strickland, WDNR
Amanda Perdzock, WDNR
Nick Utrup, USFWS