



State of New Jersey

Department of Environmental Protection
PO Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625-0402

Bradley M. Campbell
Commissioner
Tel. # (609) 292-2885
Fax # (609) 292-7695

Richard J. Codey
Acting Governor

July 19, 2005

Dear NJPDES Permittee:

On July 5, 2005, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) published notice of twenty-one new Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), including three for portions of the Passaic River Basin. Enclosed is a copy of the notice proposing the new TMDLs and the portions of the basin each affect. This action is the culmination of more than five years of work by the Department and considerable effort to address the important issue of phosphorus loading and its effects on the Passaic Basin.

I am writing to you today because your discharge is one that will be directly impacted by the new phosphorus TMDLs. Additionally, I want to inform you of our plans to move forward to implement these new TMDLs.

It is important to note that we are currently developing a second phase of TMDLs intended to cover phosphorus for over 17 stream segments in the remaining portions of the Passaic Basin, including the main stem of the Passaic and its tributaries to Dundee Dam. This work is expected to be completed by the end of this calendar year. Once completed, the Phase I and Phase II TMDLs will define the final wasteload allocations (WLAs) for each portion of the Passaic Basin.

After the Phase II TMDLs are adopted, we will renew or modify your permit to include a water quality based effluent limitation for phosphorus consistent with your final WLA. Water quality trading is also encouraged and trades approved by the Department will be reflected in your permit. Your current Phase I WLA is listed in the enclosed table.

Communication between the Department and the regulated community is crucial for successful implementation of these TMDLs. To that end, you are invited to attend an informational meeting on November 1 to discuss phosphorus TMDL implementation issues and to provide additional regulatory guidance to you.

The meeting will be from 1:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. in the Public Hearing Room at 401 East State Street in Trenton. Please note that this meeting is not intended to replace the August 4, 2005 public hearing, during which we will accept public comment on the proposed TMDLs. For more information on the November 1 meeting or to register, please call Barbara Hirst at (609) 633-1441.

I look forward to working with you to make real improvements in the water quality of this important watershed.

Sincerely,

Bradley M. Campbell
Commissioner

Enclosures