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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
DIVISION OF WATER MONITORING AND STANDARDS

Request for Comments on the draft 2014 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Methods Document Pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act and Subchapter 6 of the New Jersey Water Quality Management Planning Rules

Public Notice

Take notice that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) is seeking public comment on the draft *2014 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Methods Document* (Methods Document). The draft 2014 Methods Document includes a description of the data quality requirements and the methods to be used by the Department to evaluate surface water quality data and assess compliance with surface water quality standards and support of designated uses, as well as the rationale for placement of pollutants and assessment units on the 2014 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. This Methods Document was prepared in accordance with the New Jersey Water Quality Management Planning rules at N.J.A.C. 7:15-6.2 and is intended to satisfy New Jersey's requirement to provide a description of the methodology used to develop a statewide List of Water Quality Limited Waters pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1313(d)).

The draft 2014 Methods Document has been posted on the Department's Web site at http://www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/bwqsa/2014_integrated_report.htm. Paper copies can be obtained by calling (609) 633-1441. After review and consideration of comments received on the draft 2014 Methods Document, the Department will publish the final 2014 Methods

Document, which will then be used to develop the draft 2014 303(d) List and other elements of the 2014 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report (Integrated Report).

The draft 2014 303(d) List will be proposed as an amendment to the Statewide Water Quality Management Plan (pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-6), and a notice will be published in the New Jersey Register announcing the availability of the draft 2014 303(d) List for public review and comment. The public will be afforded the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed amendment during the comment period established in the public notice. The Department may revise the draft 2014 303(d) List after review and consideration of comments received. The final 2014 303(d) List will be submitted to USEPA for approval prior to its adoption as an amendment to the Statewide Water Quality Management Plan.

Interested persons should submit written comments on the draft 2014 Methods Document via e-mail to barbara.hirst@dep.state.nj.us or through written mail to:

Barbara Hirst, Chief

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water Monitoring and Standards

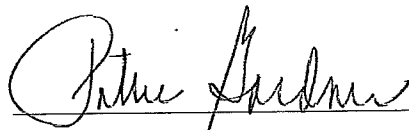
Bureau of Environmental Analysis, Restoration and Standards

PO Box 420, Mail Code 401-03

401 East State Street

Trenton, New Jersey, 08625-0420

All comments must be submitted by August 20, 2014, which is 30 days after the date of publication in the New Jersey Register. The Department shall consider all comments submitted prior to the close of the comment period when finalizing the 2104 Methods Document.



Patricia Gardner, Director

Division of Water Monitoring and Standards
Department of Environmental Protection

6/10/14

Date