



## INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

*We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.*

100 N. Senate Avenue • Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(800) 451-6027 • (317) 232-8603 • www.idem.IN.gov

Eric J. Holcomb  
*Governor*

Bruno L. Pigott  
*Commissioner*

Mr. Peter Swenson, Chief Watershed and Wetlands Branch  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region V  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, IL 60604

August 17, 2018

Dear Mr. Swenson:

RE: Indiana's 2018 Integrated Report and Draft  
303(d) List of Impaired Waters

This letter accompanies the 2018 Indiana Integrated Water Monitoring and Assessment Report (IR) and the State's draft 2018 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. These documents are being submitted per requirements under Sections 305(b) and 303(d), respectively, of the Clean Water Act and 40 CFR 130. Indiana has submitted both the 305(b) and the 303(d) components of the Integrated Report together via email.

For the development of the 2018 Integrated Report, IDEM has followed, to the degree possible, the 305(b) and 303(d) reporting methods outlined in U.S. EPA "Guidance for 2004 Assessment, Listing and Reporting Requirements Pursuant to Sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314 of the Clean Water Act" and the additional guidance provided in U.S. EPA memorandums containing information concerning CWA Sections 303(d), 305(b), and 314 integrated reporting and listing decisions for the 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, and 2016 cycles.

For the 2018 cycle, U.S. EPA issued a memorandum focusing primarily on the transition of state water quality assessment reporting systems, including Indiana's Assessment Database (ADB) to the new, federal Assessment and Total Maximum Daily Load Tracking and Implementation System (ATTAINS) online. U.S. EPA's goal for this transition is to more effectively analyze and share state water quality assessment information across its water programs and to measure progress toward its Strategic Plan.

For Indiana, this transition promises to streamline the integrated reporting process, achieve some internal data management efficiencies, and result in greater consistency between the water quality information U.S. EPA reports online for Indiana with the information IDEM reports on its own website. While the 2018 Integrated Report was developed primarily from data from the ADB, Indiana will begin using the new ATTAINS system with its submittal of the 2018 Integrated Report.

IDEM provided its full assessment dataset to U.S. EPA on February 8, 2018 for upload to ATTAINS. However, while our data has been uploaded into ATTAINS, it is presently not "in production" meaning that IDEM can neither work with the data nor formally release it for U.S. EPA review.

IDEM considers the integrated reporting requirement to provide Indiana's water quality assessment data set fulfilled for the 2018 cycle with the data now in ATTAINS. IDEM will provide its 2018 Consolidated List (Categories 1-5) when the data in ATTAINS become available for reporting purposes and will provide that list to U.S. EPA as Appendix K of the 2018 Integrated Report. The remaining components of Indiana's 2018 IR are included in this submittal and will be uploaded to ATTAINS when U.S. EPA moves our data into production, at which time IDEM will work with U.S. EPA to facilitate



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timely review. These components include Indiana's narrative Indiana 2018 Integrated Water Monitoring and Assessment Report 2018 and a number of appendices in fulfillment of both CWA Sections 305(b) and 303(d) reporting requirements including:

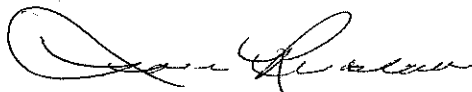
- Report tables (Appendix A)
- Report figures (Appendix B)
- Metadata for the report (Appendix C)
- Update on the status of Category 4 waters (Appendix D)
- IDEM's Total Maximum Daily Load Program (TMDL) priority framework and development schedule (Appendix E)
- IDEM's 305(b)/303(d) monitoring, assessment, reporting, and listing schedule (Appendix F)
- Indiana's 2018 Consolidated Assessment and Listing Methodology (Appendix G)
- Comprehensive aquatic life use and recreational use assessments (Appendix H)
- A Microsoft Excel file containing several worksheets to support Indiana's finalized 303(d) listing and facilitate U.S. EPA review, including the finalized 303(d) list and changes made since the draft 2018 303(d) list was published (Appendix I)
- The narrative portion of IDEM's Notice of Comment Period for the draft 2018 303(d) list, which was published on April 11, 2018 and remained open until July 10, 2018 with no comments received (Appendix J)
- Trophic status and trends of Indiana's lakes (Appendix K)

You will also find included with this submittal IDEM's finalized, High Resolution Reach Index shapefiles for use in geo-referencing the waterbodies in these documents to the National Hydrography Database.

We look forward to receiving U.S. EPA's formal decision regarding the disposition of Indiana's 2012, 2014, and 2016 303(d) lists and have developed the draft 2018 303(d) list based on the belief that this decision is forthcoming.

In the meantime, it is our understanding that with this transmittal and pending the submittal of the Consolidated List, all required components of the 2018 Integrated Report (submitted pursuant to Section 305(b) of the CWA) and the 2018 303(d) List of Impaired Waters are complete and ready for U.S. EPA review. If you have any questions, please contact Jody Arthur (317-308-3179) or me (317-308-3235).

Sincerely,



Marylou Poppa Renshaw, Chief  
Watershed Assessment and Planning Branch  
Office of Water Quality

Cc:

Martha Clark Mettler, IDEM Office of Water Quality  
Paul Higginbotham, IDEM Office of Water Quality  
Vilma Rivera-Carrero, U.S. EPA Region V