

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Environmental Protection Division • Watershed Protection Branch
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Judson H. Turner, Director

October 7, 2014

Mr. James D. Giattina, Director
Water Management Division
U. S. EPA, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

Dear Mr. Giattina:

The purpose of this correspondence is to transmit to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Georgia's 2014 Integrated 305(b)/303(d) Report as required by Section 303(d) and Section 305(b) of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The 303(d) list of waters was developed in accordance with 40 CFR Section 130.7 and guidance provided by the USEPA Office of Water.

The availability of the draft 305(b)/303(d) list package was publicly noticed on May 30, 2014. The public notice was mailed or e-mailed to all persons on GA EPD's mailing list for water issues. The public notice included a contact person for requesting copies of the listing documents and for answering questions about the draft list. An internet address for viewing the draft 2014 listing documents was provided with the public notice. The public notice was also posted on a couple of places on Georgia EPD's website including the Water Branch's 305(b)/303(d) webpage and EPD's homepage. GA EPD held a public meeting on June 24, 2014 in Atlanta in order to answer questions and to receive comments regarding the draft 2014 list of waters. Only one person attended. A copy of the public notice was sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's office to fulfill the Endangered Species Act requirements. No comments were received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A total of five comments were received on the draft list. The comments and EPD's response can be found on the attached comment/response document.

The assessment information for the 2014 305(b)/303(d) list of waters was entered into USEPA's Assessment Database (ADB). A copy of the database is contained on the enclosed CD along with the GIS coverage of the 2014 305(b)/303(d) list of waters. The 305(b)/303(d) list of waters contained in Appendix A of Georgia's 305(b) report was not printed from ADB, but was printed from a separate database maintained by the State. The ADB database was cross-checked against the State's database to make sure that there were no discrepancies. The list of waters printed from the State's database includes a section of impaired waters, but it does not include a separate 303(d) list. In order to aid in USEPA's review of our 2014 submittal, GA EPD has included a separate 303(d) list as an attachment to this letter. This list was printed from ADB. The 303(d) list printed from ADB was compared against waters in Category

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5 on the hard copy of the 305(b)/303(d) list of waters in the 305(b) report and was found to be equivalent.

This cover letter and the materials attached herewith represent Georgia's 2014 305(b)/303(d) Listing package except for the 2014 305(b) report. The 305(b) report will be submitted separately in the near future. The attachments include the following:

Attachment #1- Georgia EPD's 2014 Listing Assessment Methodology;

Attachment #2 - Georgia's 2014 303(d) List printed from ADB;

Attachment #3 table of delisted waters (waters that have been removed from the 303(d) list since 2012);

Attachment #4 table of water quality standard attainments (waters where a pollutant has been removed since 2012);

Attachment #5 comments received and GA EPD's response;

Attachment #6 list of TMDLs that EPD plans to draft in the next two years;

Attachment #7 list of changes between the draft list of waters and the final list of waters;

Attachment #8 table detailing changes made to Assessment Unit ID's between 2012 and 2014 (crosswalk);

Attachment #9 Excel spreadsheets reporting results of probabilistic monitoring;

Attachment #10 tables of waters not listed as impaired for dissolved oxygen or pH due to natural conditions;

Attachment #11 Appendix A of Georgia's Integrated 2014 305(b)/303(d) Report (305b/303d List of Waters);

Attachment #12 CD containing ADB database and GIS coverage of 2014 305(b)/303(d) List of Waters.

We look forward to your review and approval of Georgia's 2014 Integrated 305(b)/303(d) Report. If you have questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Booth, Program Manager II
Watershed Planning & Monitoring Program
Watershed Protection Branch

EB/sbs

Attachments