



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII
901 NORTH 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

24 MAR 2005

Mr. Michael J. Linder, Director
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
Suite 400, The Atrium
1200 N. Street
P.O. Box 98922
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-8922

Dear Mr. Linder:

RE: Approval of Nebraska TMDLs

This letter responds to the submission from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) originally received by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on February 22, 2005, for three Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) documents which contain TMDLs for Fecal coliform and E. coli bacteria. The below listed rivers were identified on the 2002 Nebraska §303(d) list as impaired. This submission fulfills the Clean Water Act statutory requirement to develop TMDLs for impairments listed on a state's §303(d) list. The specific impairment (water body segment and pollutant) are:

<u>Water Body Name</u>	<u>WBID</u>	<u>Listed pollutant</u>
Big Blue River	BB1-10000	Fecal Coliform & E. coli Bacteria
	BB1-20000	Fecal Coliform & E. coli Bacteria
West Fork Big Blue	BB3-10000	Fecal Coliform & E. coli Bacteria
Little Blue River	LB1-10000	Fecal Coliform & E. coli Bacteria
	LB2-10000	Fecal Coliform & E. coli Bacteria
Republican River	RE1-10000	Fecal Coliform & E. coli Bacteria
	RE1-20000	Fecal Coliform & E. coli Bacteria
	RE2-10000	Fecal Coliform & E. coli Bacteria
	RE3-10000	Fecal Coliform & E. coli Bacteria
Frenchman Creek	RE3-20300	Fecal Coliform & E. coli Bacteria

EPA has completed its review of the TMDLs with supporting documentation and information. By this letter, EPA approves the submitted TMDLs. Enclosed with this letter are the Region 7 TMDL Decision Documents which summarize the rationale for EPA's approval of



the TMDLs. The EPA believes the separate elements of the TMDLs described in the enclosed form adequately address the pollutant of concern, taking into consideration seasonal variation and a margin of safety.

EPA appreciates the thoughtful effort that NDEQ has put into these TMDLs. EPA will continue to cooperate with and assist, as appropriate, in future efforts by NDEQ to develop remaining TMDLs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leo J. Alderman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Leo J. Alderman
Director

Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division

Enclosure

cc: Patrick O'Brien
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality