



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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

AUG 29 2006

Mr. Edward Galbraith, Director
Water Protection Program
Water Protection and Soil Conservation Division
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Dear Mr. Galbraith:

Re: Approval of Douger Branch TMDL

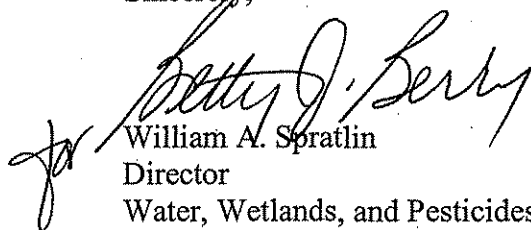
This letter responds to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) submission received on August 11, 2006, of a document addressing one Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). This TMDL address the aquatic life use impairment of Douger Branch, water body identification 3168, with a pollutant of zinc.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 has completed its review of this TMDL document with supporting documentation and information. By this letter, EPA approves the submitted TMDL document. Enclosed with this letter is the EPA Region 7 TMDL Review Form which summarizes the rationale for EPA's approval of this TMDL document. EPA believes the separate elements of the TMDL described in the enclosed form adequately address the pollutant of concern through assessment of the loading capacity, consideration of seasonal variation, and a margin of safety.

Under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, EPA is currently consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding this TMDL. While EPA is approving this TMDL, EPA may decide in the future that changes to the TMDL are warranted based upon the results of the consultation.

We appreciate the thoughtful effort that the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) has put into this TMDL. We will continue to cooperate and assist MDNR in developing future TMDLs.

Sincerely,


William A. Spratlin
Director
Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division

cc: Ann Peery, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, MO
Phil Schroeder, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, MO
Gerald Babao, American Canoe Association, Springfield, VA
Paul Sanford, American Canoe Association, Springfield, VA
Scott Dye, Sierra Club, Columbia, MO
John Simpson, KS Natural Resource Council, Kansas City, MO
Scott Dye, Sierra Club, Columbia, MO