



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 7  
901 NORTH 5TH STREET  
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

MAR 05 2010

Mr. Richard Leopold, Director  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Henry A. Wallace Building  
502 East 9th Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Re: Approval of *E. coli* Bacteria TMDLs for Des Moines River

Dear Mr. Leopold:

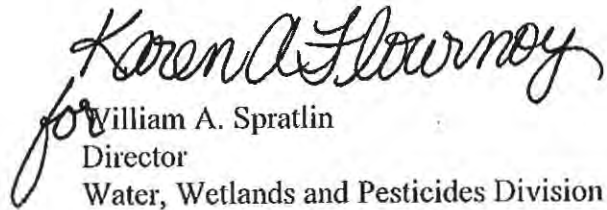
This letter responds to the submission from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) originally received by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 on October 28, 2009, for Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) to address the water quality pollution of *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) bacteria in Des Moines River from Red Rock to Saylorville Reservoirs. A revised TMDL document was submitted and received on December 21, 2009. This submission fulfills the Clean Water Act statutory requirement to develop TMDLs for impairments listed on a state's § 303(d) list. The bacteria load for Raccoon River, a main tributary to the Des Moines River, was approved previously in 2008. For this TMDL document, the specific water body segments and their associated pollutants are listed as follows:

<u>Water Body Name</u>	<u>WBID</u>	<u>Pollutant</u>
Des Moines River	IA 04-LDM-0040_1	<i>E. coli</i> bacteria
	IA 04-LDM-0040_2	<i>E. coli</i> bacteria
	IA 04-LDM-0040_3	<i>E. coli</i> bacteria
	IA 04-UDM-0010_1	<i>E. coli</i> bacteria
	IA 04-UDM-0010_2	<i>E. coli</i> bacteria

EPA has completed its review of the TMDLs with supporting documentation and information. By this letter, EPA approves the submitted TMDL document. Enclosed with this letter is the Region 7 TMDL Decision Document that summarizes the rationale for EPA's approval of the TMDLs. EPA believes that the key elements of the TMDL document described in the enclosed forms adequately address the pollutants of concern, with considerations of seasonal variation and critical flow conditions. Although EPA does not approve the monitoring plan submitted by the state, EPA acknowledges the state's efforts. EPA understands that the state may use the monitoring plan to gauge the effectiveness of the TMDLs and determine if future revisions are necessary or appropriate to meet applicable water quality standards.

EPA appreciates the thoughtful effort that IDNR has put into this TMDL document. We will continue to cooperate with and assist, as appropriate, in future efforts by IDNR to develop remaining TMDLs.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Allen Bonini  
Mr. Jeff Berkes (w/encl. via hard copy)  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Mr. Mike Coffey  
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Mr. Wallace Taylor  
The Sierra Club

Mr. Jerry Anderson  
Drake University School of Law

Mr. Lawrence McLellan  
Sullivan & Ward P.C.

Mr. Michael Breitbach  
Mr. Sol Simon  
Mississippi River Revival

Ms. Regina Thiry  
SAILORS, Inc.