



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

DEC - 5 2013

OFFICE OF WATER

Shellie Chard-McClary (OK)
President
Association of Clean Water Administrators
1221 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Second Floor
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Ms. Chard-McClary:

With great appreciation for the invaluable contribution of your organization, I am pleased to attach a new *Long-Term Vision for Assessment, Restoration, and Protection under the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Program*. As noted in an October 2012, letter from your organization, I agree that this effort -- formally launched at a 2011 annual meeting of the Association of Clean Water Administrators -- is an exemplary model of partnership between the Environmental Protection Agency and States.

I would like to thank key individuals in the ACWA organization for their truly commendable work on the development of this new Vision, including ACWA Executive Director Alexandra Dunn, Sara Vinson (formerly of ACWA's staff), Susan Kirsch and the State CWA 303(d) representatives from all 50 States who were involved in this effort over the past two years. In particular, I would like to recognize ACWA's co-chairs and designees from the TMDLs and Watersheds Committee and the Monitoring, Standards, and Assessment Committee -- Tom Stiles (KS), Martha Clark Mettler (IN), Traci Iott (CT) Jan Boydston (LA), and Phil Moershel (OK) -- for their leadership and dedicated efforts to support development of the Vision. Developing the Vision with the States and your organization has built excellent working relationships that bode well for its long-term success.

I am excited about the challenging work in front of us as we now turn to implementing this Vision. I look forward to continuing to work with you and the States as we improve the effectiveness of this critical program for attaining the goals of the Clean Water Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy K. Stoner".

Nancy K. Stoner
Acting Assistant Administrator

Attachment: *Long-Term Vision for Assessment, Restoration, and Protection under the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Program*

cc: Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, Executive Director and General Counsel, ACWA