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IN RE: Waters of the United States Rulemaking Comments  
From State and Local Officials

The Hancock County Surveyor's Office in Greenfield, Indiana, is primary responsible for the maintenance and installation of stormwater and drainage. We are a very flat county and drainage is very important for our residents. It is important for us to make sure we keep the County's Regulated Drains functioning properly. Therefore, we would like to thank the EPA and USACOE for the opportunity to provide comments and support a clear definition of the "Waters of the United States" under the Clean Water Act. We believe Justice Scalia opinion in *Rapanos vs United States* should be the standard for defining Waters of the US. The definition of navigable waters should be "relatively permanent waters and wetlands with a continuous surface connection to relatively permanent water". In other words perennial streams carry flow throughout the year. There should be a clear way to delineate these such as the blue line on the USGS maps.

Local and state officials should be able to make these decisions so repairs can be made in a timely and efficient matter. There should not be delays in permitting and additional costs.

Thank you for allowing us to comment on the guidance and hopefully provide a local perspective.

Sincerely,

Susan Bodkin  
Hancock County, Indiana Surveyor