

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8 1595 Wynkoop Street

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Ref: 8EPR-EP

June 6, 2013



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Jim Ruby, Executive Secretary Environmental Quality Council

Lindsay Patterson Water Quality Division Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Herschler Building 4-W 122 West 25th Street, Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Ms. Patterson:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8's Water Quality Unit received the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality's public notice, published on May 13, 2013. The notice includes information about the July 11, 2013 public hearing and supporting documents, including the proposed changes to Chapter 1 of the Wyoming Water Quality Rules and Regulations and associated Implementation Policies, Statement of Principal Reasons, and Notice of Intent. The Water Quality Unit reviewed the proposed amendments and supports adoption.

The Water Quality Unit commends you for your thorough review of Wyoming's water quality standards. The proposed changes include significant improvements, such as:

- Resolution of the EPA's September 29, 2008 disapprovals regarding elements of Section 27 and the thallium and toxaphene human health criteria;
- New aquatic life criteria for acrolein, nonylphenol and diazinon and revised aquatic life criteria for tributyltin and silver consistent with the Agency's recommendations pursuant to Clean Water Act § 304(a);¹
- New human health criteria for hexachlorocyclo-hexane-technical and revised human health criteria for acrolein, chlorobenzene/monochlorobenzene, phenol, endrin, cyanide, and nickel consistent with the agency's recommendations pursuant to Clean Water Act § 304(a); and
- New human health criteria for bromate, chlorite, haloacetic acids, total trihalomethanes, and a revised human health criterion for 1,1-dichloroethylene consistent with the Maximum Contaminant Levels established under the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations.²

The EPA looks forward to continuing to work with you to protect and improve Wyoming's surface waters.

¹ See <u>http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/standards/criteria/current/index.cfm</u>.

² See <u>http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants/index.cfm</u>.

Please note that these comments are preliminary in nature and should not be interpreted as final agency decisions under Clean Water Act § 303(c). If you have any questions, please call Tonya Fish on my staff at (303) 312-6832.

Sincerely,

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Sandra Spence, Chief Water Quality Unit

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