



Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Comment Period on Impaired Waters List Open for 60 Days

FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 3, 2017) - The Kentucky Division of Water has opened a 60-day comment period on the 2016 draft 303(d) list of impaired waters, as required by the federal Water Pollution Control (or Clean Water) Act of 1972.

Section 305(b) of the Clean Water Act (the Act) requires each state to monitor, assess and report on the quality of water resources relative to designated uses established in accordance with Kentucky's water quality standards.

Section 303(d) of the Act requires each state to identify those waters that have been monitored and assessed that do not or are not expected to meet state water quality standards for their intended uses. Section 303(d) also requires a state to develop a priority ranking of these waters, taking into account the severity of the pollution and the designated uses of the water (e.g. recreational contact, aquatic habitat, water supply). For each water body included in the list, the state must

develop a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) which is a daily maximum allowance for each identified pollutant.

The TMDL is developed to support plans and strategies that will result in the water body meeting its designated uses. Water bodies that are proposed for removal from the list are also included in the report. The identified waters and priority rankings are presented in the draft 2016, 303(d) list of impaired waters.

The 2016 draft impaired waters list is based primarily on results from monitoring and assessments performed on 646 stream miles in the Big Sandy River Basin Management Unit (BMU) and 1,833 stream miles in the Kentucky River BMU. Publicly accessible reservoirs (lakes) were monitored and assessed from those two BMUs from April 2012 to March 2014. The report also incorporates assessment data and results from monitoring that occurred outside of the BMUs of focus, totaling 1,573 stream miles and providing a statewide update of monitoring results.

The Excel© file containing the draft version of the 2016 303(d) list may be viewed on the Division of Water's website at <http://water.ky.gov/Pages/PublicNotices.aspx>. Links to the summaries of new listings can be found in the 'Draft 2016 New Listings' tab in the Draft 2016 303(d) List Excel file, as well as on the Kentucky Water Health Portal at <http://watermaps.ky.gov/WaterHealthPortal/>.

Comments on the draft list may be sent to alicia.jacobs@ky.gov or mailed to Alicia Jacobs at the Division of Water, 300 Sower Blvd, Frankfort, KY 40601. Comments received by email or mail must be dated or postmarked no later than July 28, 2017.

For further information, please contact Ms. Jacobs at 502-782-69877.

Additional information is available at <http://eec.kentucky.gov>

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