



Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

Steven L. Beshear, Governor

Leonard K. Peters, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Eric Liebenauer, 502-564-3410

Public comment sought on report addressing problems related to bacteria in South Elkhorn Creek watershed *Comment period ends Jan. 2*

FRANKFORT, Ky. – (Dec. 1, 2011) –The Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet is seeking public comment until Jan. 2, 2012, on a draft report addressing bacteria impairment in nine stream segments and two springs within the South Elkhorn Creek watershed located in the Kentucky River Basin.

The Clean Water Act requires each state to periodically identify specific waters where designated uses are not being met and water quality impairments exist. The state is also required to prioritize the list of impaired waters, calculate a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) of pollutants for those waters and devise plans to improve the water quality. A TMDL is a calculated amount of pollutants a particular water body may contain and remain unimpaired for its designated use.

The report, "Total Maximum Daily Load for Fecal Coliform and E. coli, Nine Stream Segments and Two Springs within the South Elkhorn Creek Watershed, Fayette, Franklin, Jessamine, Scott and Woodford Counties, Kentucky," prepared by the Kentucky Division of Water addresses bacteria impairments in the South Elkhorn Creek watershed at levels that make them unsuitable for swimming. The report includes data and procedures used to calculate the TMDL for the stream segments.

Revisions to the report may be made following the public comment period and before it is sent to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval.

The report may be viewed on the [DOW Web site](http://water.ky.gov/Pages/PublicNotices.aspx) at <http://water.ky.gov/Pages/PublicNotices.aspx>. Comments should be sent in writing to Eric Liebenauer, Division of Water, 200 Fair Oaks Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601 or by e-mail to eric.liebenauer@ky.gov.

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