



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION I  
5 POST OFFICE SQUARE SUITE 100  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109-3912

June 15, 2011

David Mears, Commissioner  
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation  
103 South Main Street  
Waterbury VT 05671-0408

**Re: Section 303(d) list approval**

Dear Commissioner Mears:

Thank you for your final submittal of the 2010 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list, **State of Vermont 303(d) List of Waters**, dated August 2010 and your submittal letter dated August 9, 2010. In accordance with Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and 40 CFR §130.7, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted a complete review of Vermont's 2010 Section 303(d) list and supporting documentation. Based on this review, EPA has determined that Vermont's list of water quality limited segments still requiring Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) meets the requirements of Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and EPA's implementing regulations. Therefore, by this order, EPA hereby approves Vermont's Section 303(d) list.

The submittal includes a list of those waters for which technology based and other required controls for point and nonpoint sources are not stringent enough to attain or maintain compliance with the State's Water Quality Standards. The submittal presents Vermont's TMDL strategy which describes a priority setting approach and identifies those waters for which TMDLs will be completed and submitted during the next two years. The statutory and regulatory requirements, and EPA's review of Vermont's compliance with each requirement, are described in detail in the enclosed approval document.

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VTDEC) has also successfully completed a public participation process during which the public was given the opportunity to review and comment on the Section 303(d) list. As a result of this effort, Vermont has considered public comments in the development of the final list. A summary of the public comments and VTDEC's response to comments was included in the submittal.

Your staff has done an excellent job of preparing a comprehensive and informative list, and providing EPA with thorough supporting documentation. My staff and I look forward to continued cooperation with VTDEC in implementing the requirements under Section 303(d) of

the CWA. Please feel free to contact me or Eric Perkins at 617-918-1602, if you have any questions or comments on our review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ken Perkins" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephen S. Perkins, Director  
Office of Ecosystem Protection

Enclosure

cc: Tim Clear, VTDEC