

# Lake Erie Phosphorus Task Force

February 6, 2013

Point Source Discussion

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# Today's Talk

## Point Source: Wastewater (Sewage) Plants and Overflows From Municipal Sewer Systems (CSOs)

- Wastewater Treatment Plants
- CSO Communities – Lake Erie
- CSO and WWTP Load Contribution
- Conclusions/Discussion

# Wastewater Treatment Plants: 2011

- Statewide 188 WWTPs Have TP Limits<sup>1</sup>
  - Most 1.0 mg/L (monthly average)
  - Some 0.5 mg/L
- Lake Erie Basin
  - 1.0 mg/L WWTPs With Flow Greater Than 1 MGD
- Statewide 353 WWTPs Monitor P
  - Many Will See P Limit

# Phosphorus Removal Technology/Costs

- Limit of 1 mg/L
  - Chemical Precipitation
  - Can Operate Close to 0.5 mg/L
  - Costs Reasonable (NEORSD – Several Hundred Thousand Dollars per Year)
- Limit 0.5 mg/L
  - Chemical Precipitation and Filtration (Expensive)
  - Many WWTPs Don't Have Filtration
- Limit Under 0.2 mg/L
  - More Chemical and Filtration – Even More Expensive
- Limit 0.1 mg/L
  - More Chemical and Membrane Filtration (Very Expensive)

# Phosphorus Loading Trends

## WWTPs

- Wastewater Treatment Plants
  - Number Wastewater Plants/Population Stable
  - No Regulatory Requirement Lower P limits
- Conclusion - Phosphorus Loading Expected Stable From WWTPs

# Questions for WWTPs ...

- Lower P limits to 0.5 mg/L or Lower
  - Filtration Needed – NEORSD/Toledo/Akron and Others
- Require POTWs Maximize P Removal of P With Existing Equipment – Push to 0.5 mg/L – Minimal Cost
- Require WWTPs Under 1 MGD Meet 1 mg/L
  - Happening Some With TMDLs
  - Load Reduction Not as Great (Smaller Plants)
  - Operationally More Difficult Smaller Facilities

# Sewage Overflows Municipal Sewer Systems: CSOs

A **Combined Sewer System** is a wastewater collection system which conveys **sanitary wastewater** and **storm water** through a **single pipe system to a treatment plant**

During a **storm event**, the combined sewer is overloaded with water and **some of the combined sewage and storm water is discharged to stream prior to receiving treatment**

**Combined Sewage** is a **mixture** storm water runoff and whatever is in the sanitary sewer: waste from industries, commercial establishments, medical facilities and individual homes

# Combined Sewer System During Dry Weather

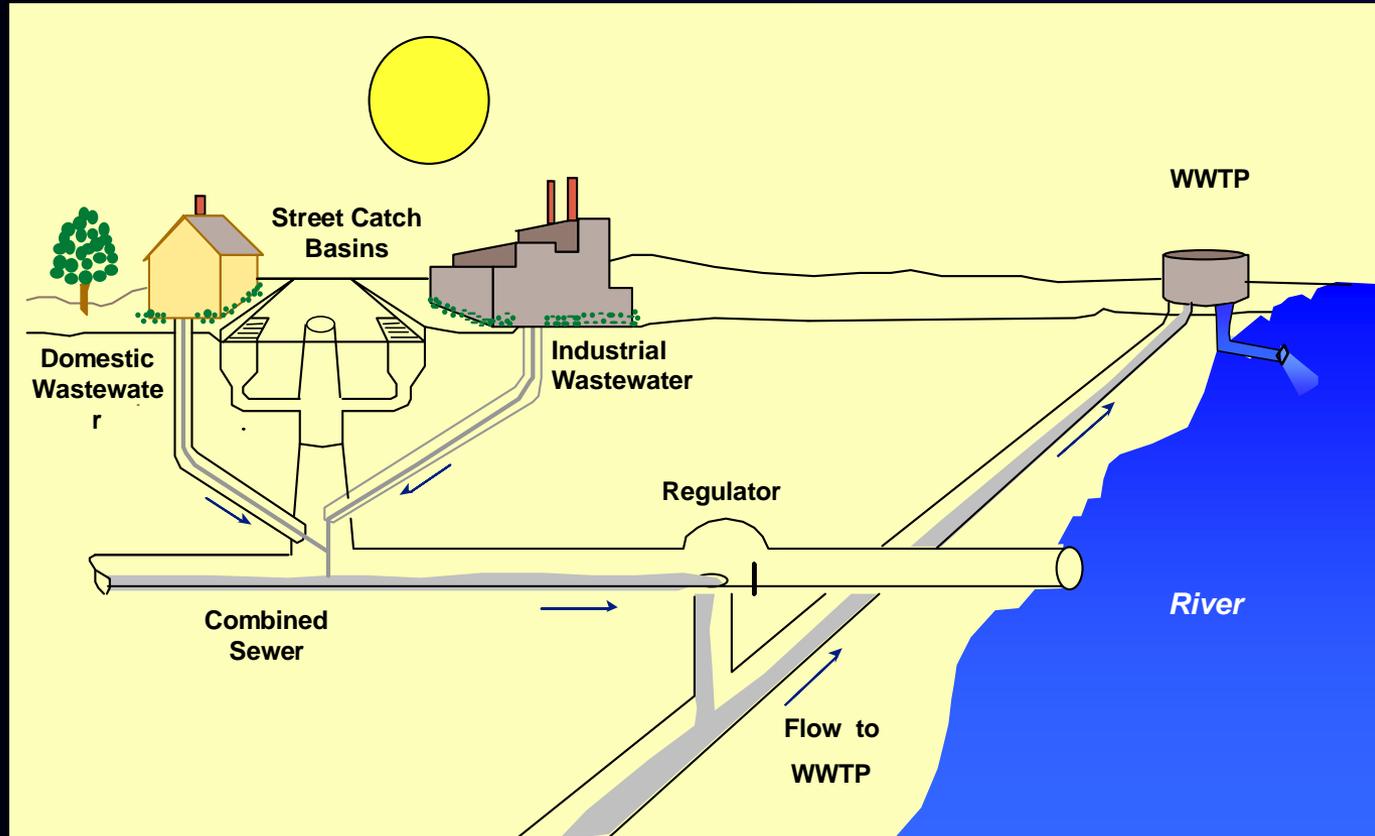
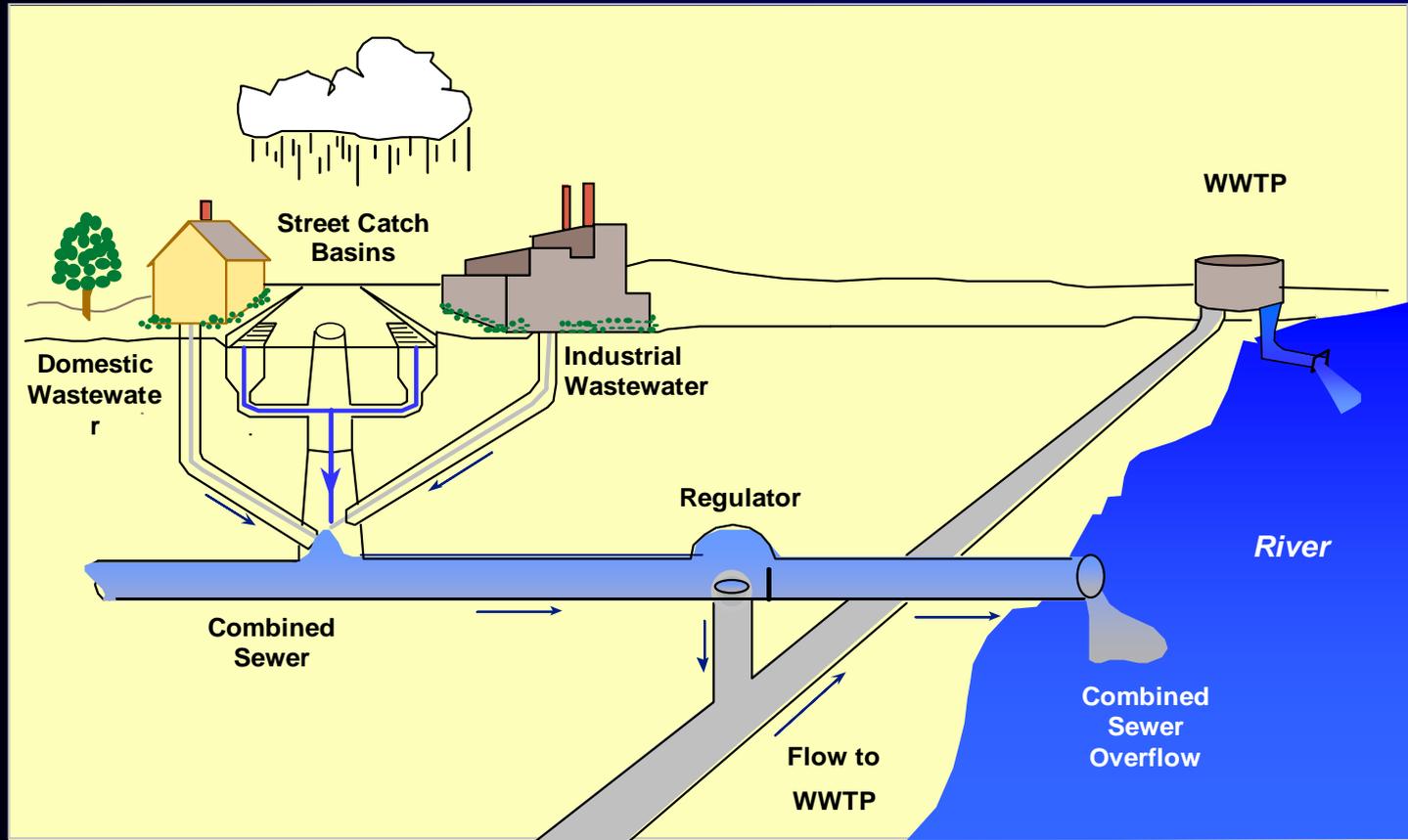


Photo: CSO Education: NEORS.D.

# Combined Sewer System During Wet Weather

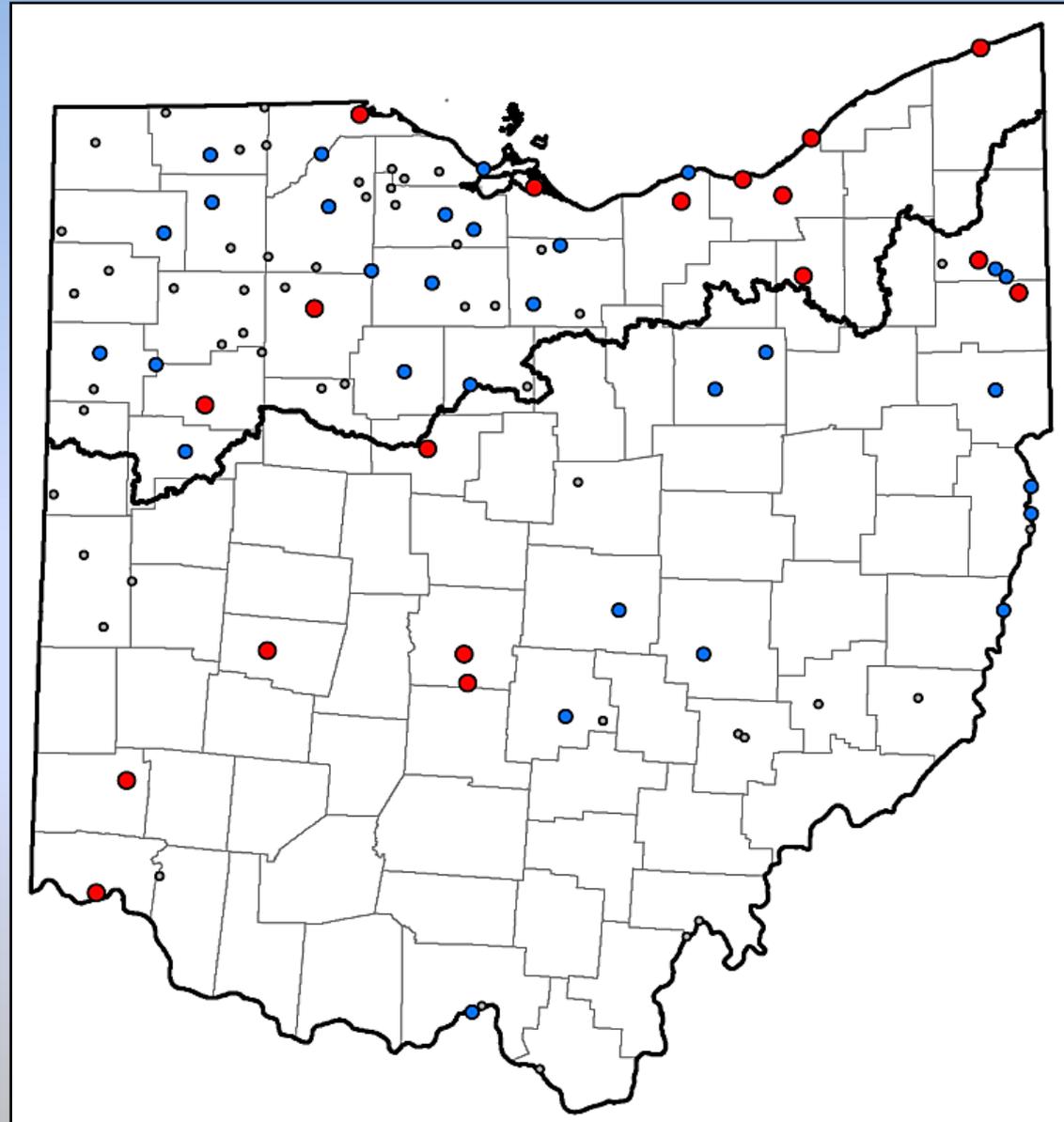


# Ohio Combined Sewer Overflow Communities

- 101 Ohio CSO Communities
- 62 in the Lake Erie Basin

## NPDES Permits with CSOs

- Small
- Medium
- Large



# Long Term Control Plans

- Develop Long Term Control Plan (LTCP)
  - Level Control Usually <4 Overflows per Year
  - City's incorporate any combination of:
    - Sewer Separation
    - Storage Tanks - Tunnels
    - Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades
    - Physical/Chemical High Rate Treatment
- Consent Order or NPDES Permit Requires Implementation of LTCP Projects

# Long Term Control Plans

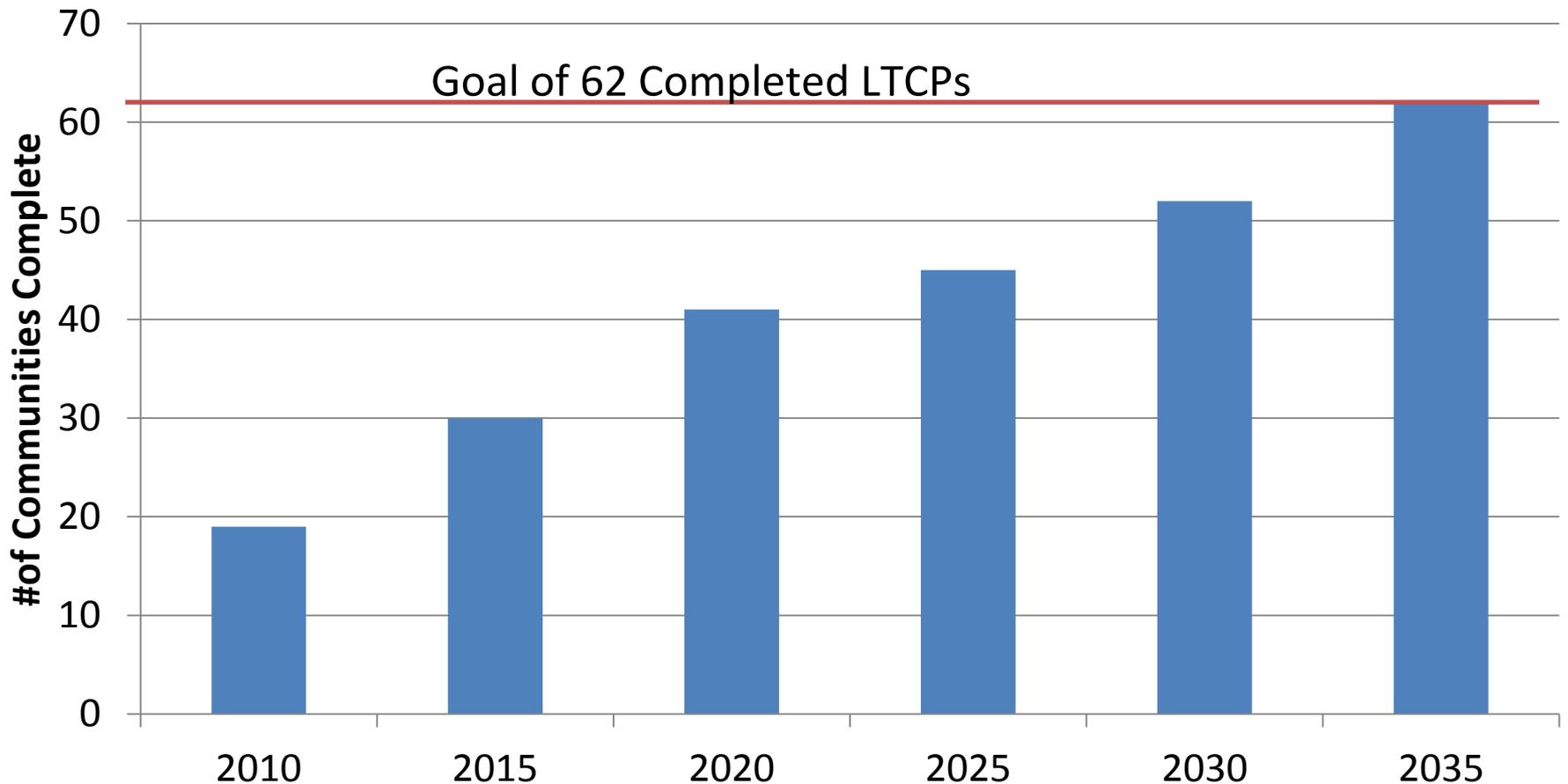
Almost All Communities Have Approved LTCP and are Implementing LTCP Projects

- Lima, Lakewood Exception
  - Federal cases – No Approved LTCP

# Ohio LTCP Completion

- When will the Long Term Control Plans be Complete?

**Progression of LTCP Completion**



# Long Term Control Plans

Largest Volumes of CSO From NEORSD, Akron, Toledo, Fremont and Sandusky

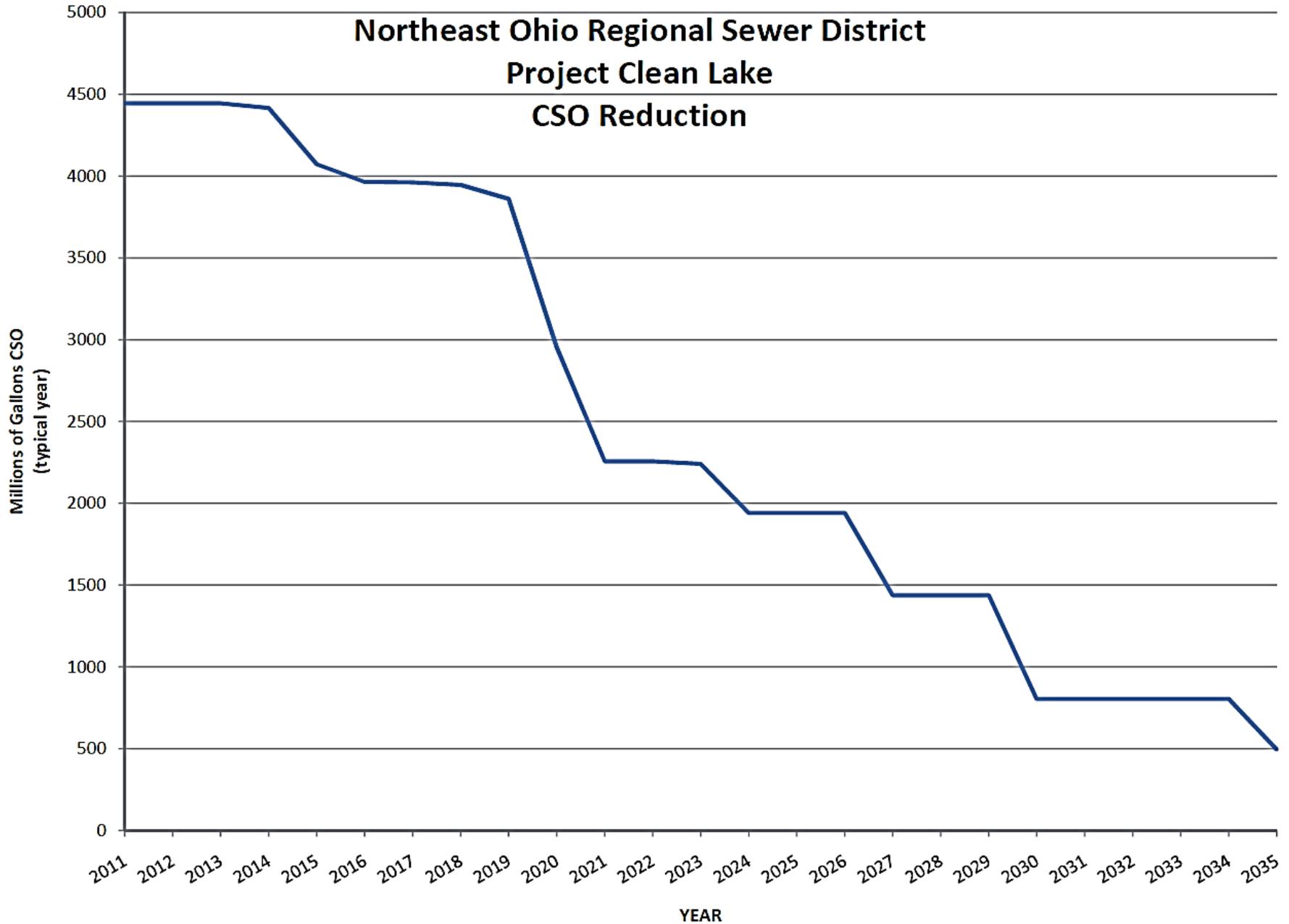
- Significant Progress Underway NEORSD, Akron, Toledo and Sandusky

# Cleveland (NEORSD) LTCP

- Long Term Control Plan Completion – 2035
  - Total cost - \$3 Billion
  - <4 CSO events/year
  - 5 Underground Storage Tunnels
  - Plant Upgrades, Conveyance, and Storage

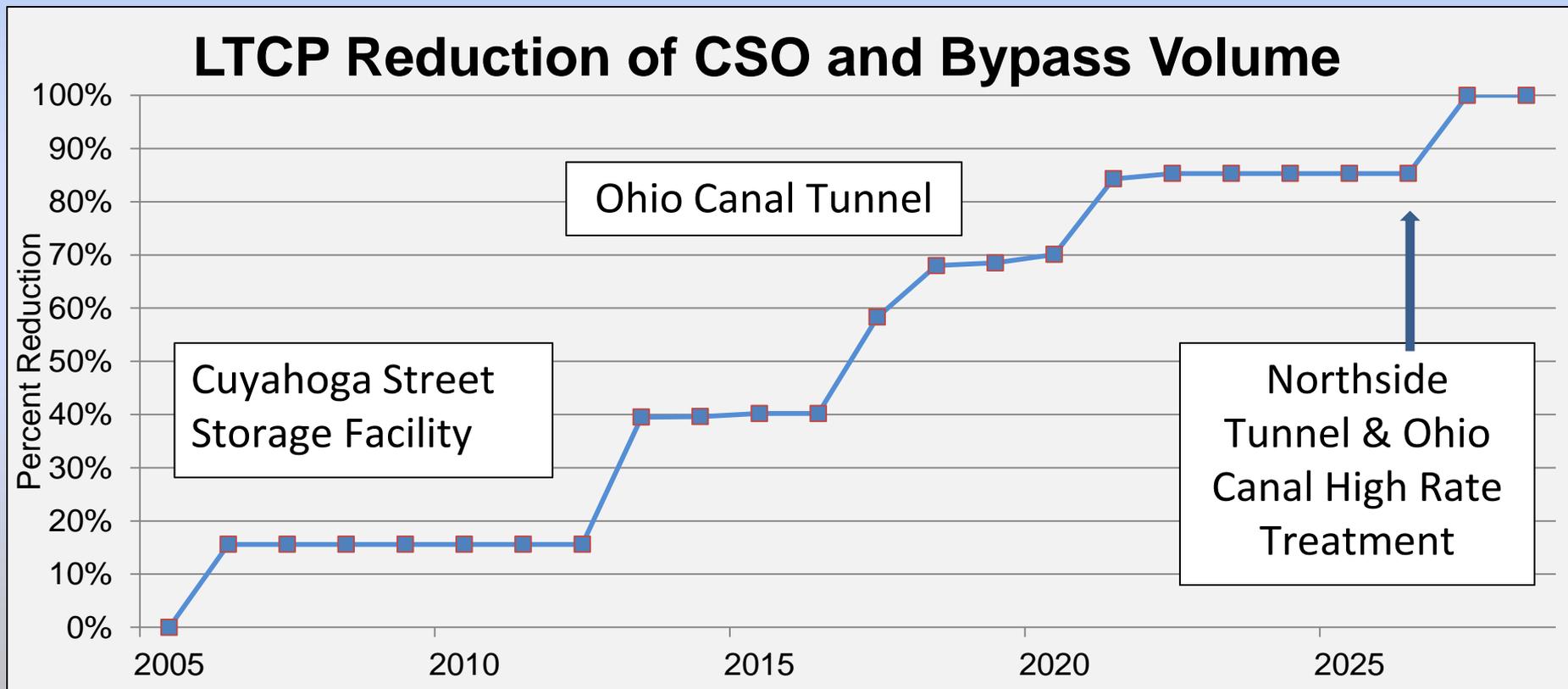


# Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District Project Clean Lake CSO Reduction



# Akron LTCP

- Long Term Control Plan Completion– 2028
  - Total Cost - \$900 Million
  - 2 Underground Storage Tunnels
  - Plant Upgrades, Sewer Separation, Storage Basins



# Toledo LTCP

- Long Term Control Plan Completion– 2020
  - Total Cost - \$500 Million
  - <4 overflows/year
  - Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion
  - Storage, Sewer Separation, I&I Removal

| CSO Volume Reduction |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Year</i>          | <i>CSO Volume (MG/yr)</i> |
| 1997                 | 890                       |
| 2001                 | 400                       |
| 2020                 | 70                        |



photo: The Plan. 2010. Toledo Waterways Initiative. Web. 4 Feb. 2013.

# Sandusky LTCP

- Long Term Control Plan
  - Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion - 2010
  - Negotiating Additional Improvements: Storage, Conveyance, Pumping Upgrades – 2020

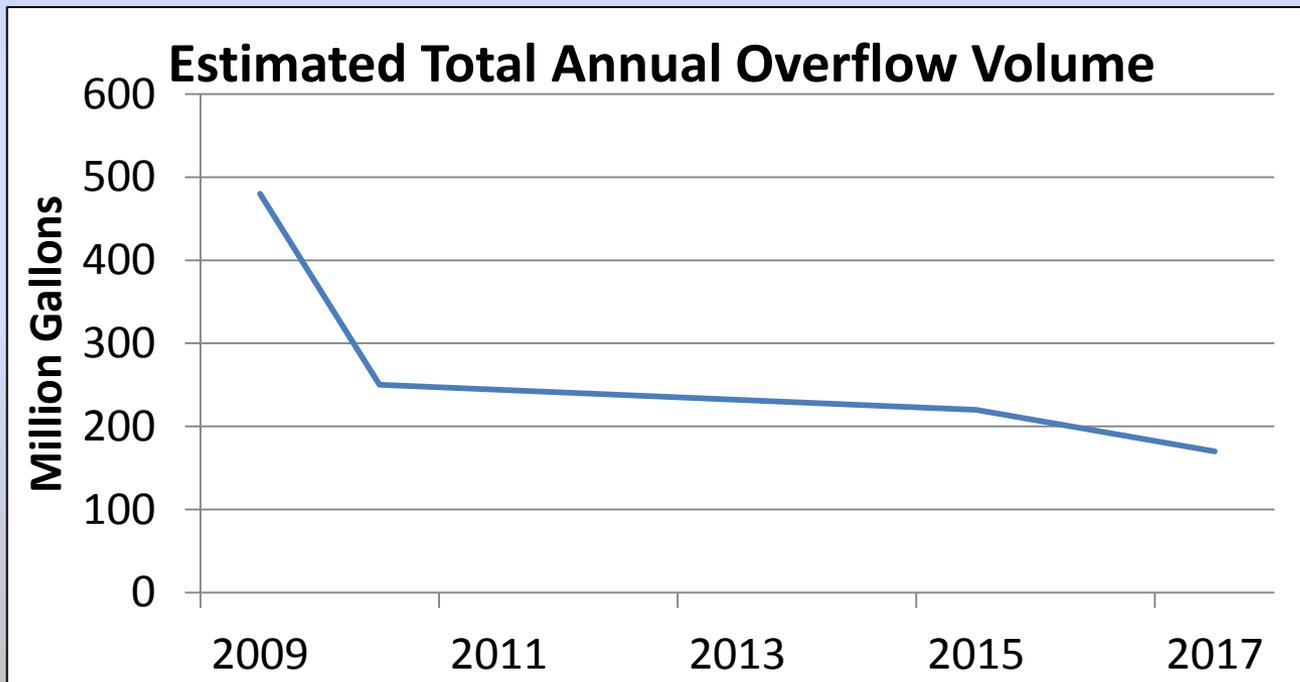


photo: Lagunzad, Cassandra. The Erie Wire, 2010. Web. 4 Feb. 2013

# Cleveland Proposed Rate Increases

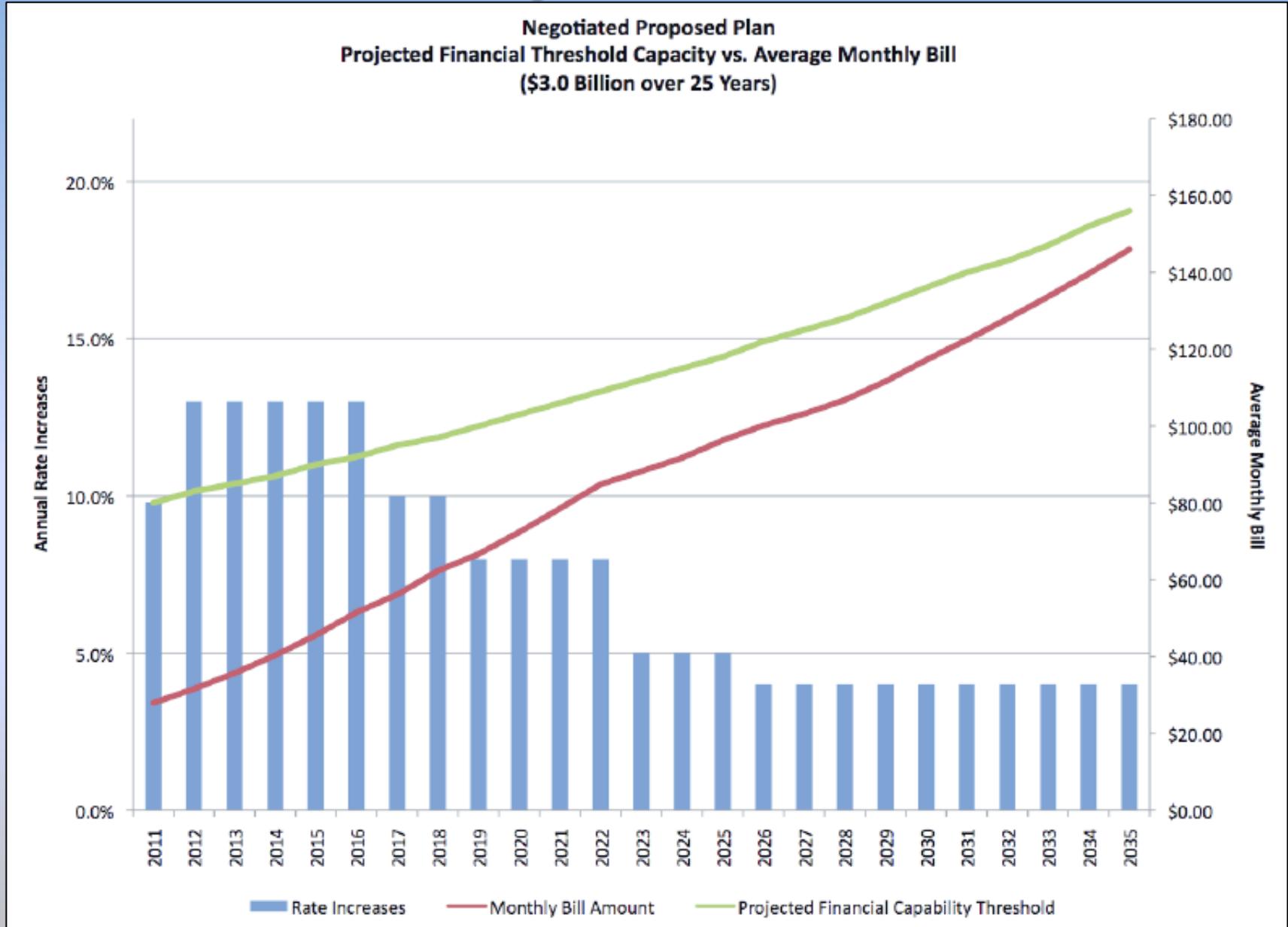


Photo: CSO Long-Term Control Plan presentation to NEORSD Trustees 2010 1118. NEORSD. 2010. Web. 4 Feb. 2013.

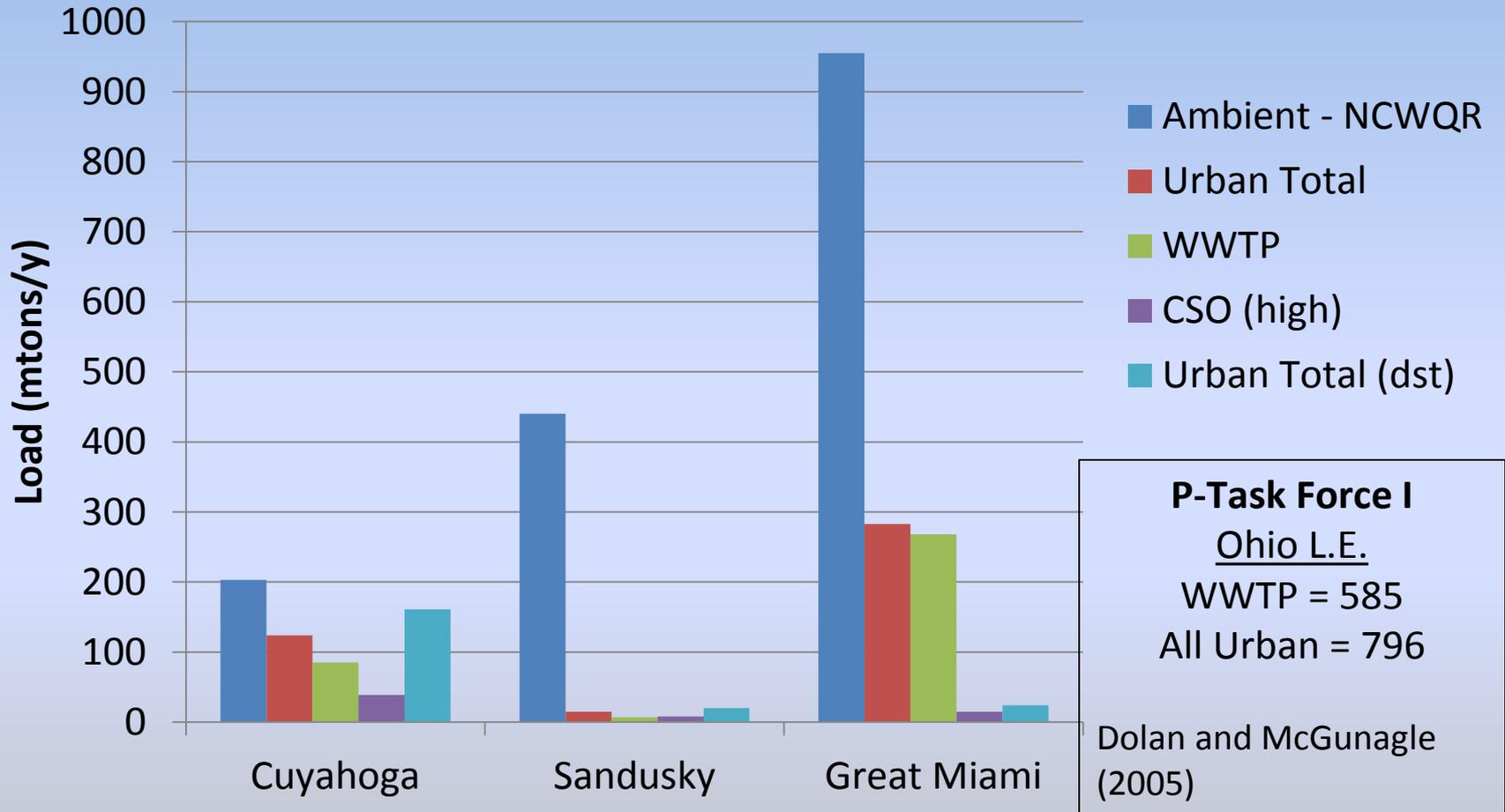
# Relative Loading WWTPs and CSOs

CSOs Smaller Contribution Overall Compared to  
Wastewater Treatment Plants

OEPA (Dale White) Presentation November  
Nutrient Workshop

# Comparison Among Basins – TP

1996-2001 averaging period



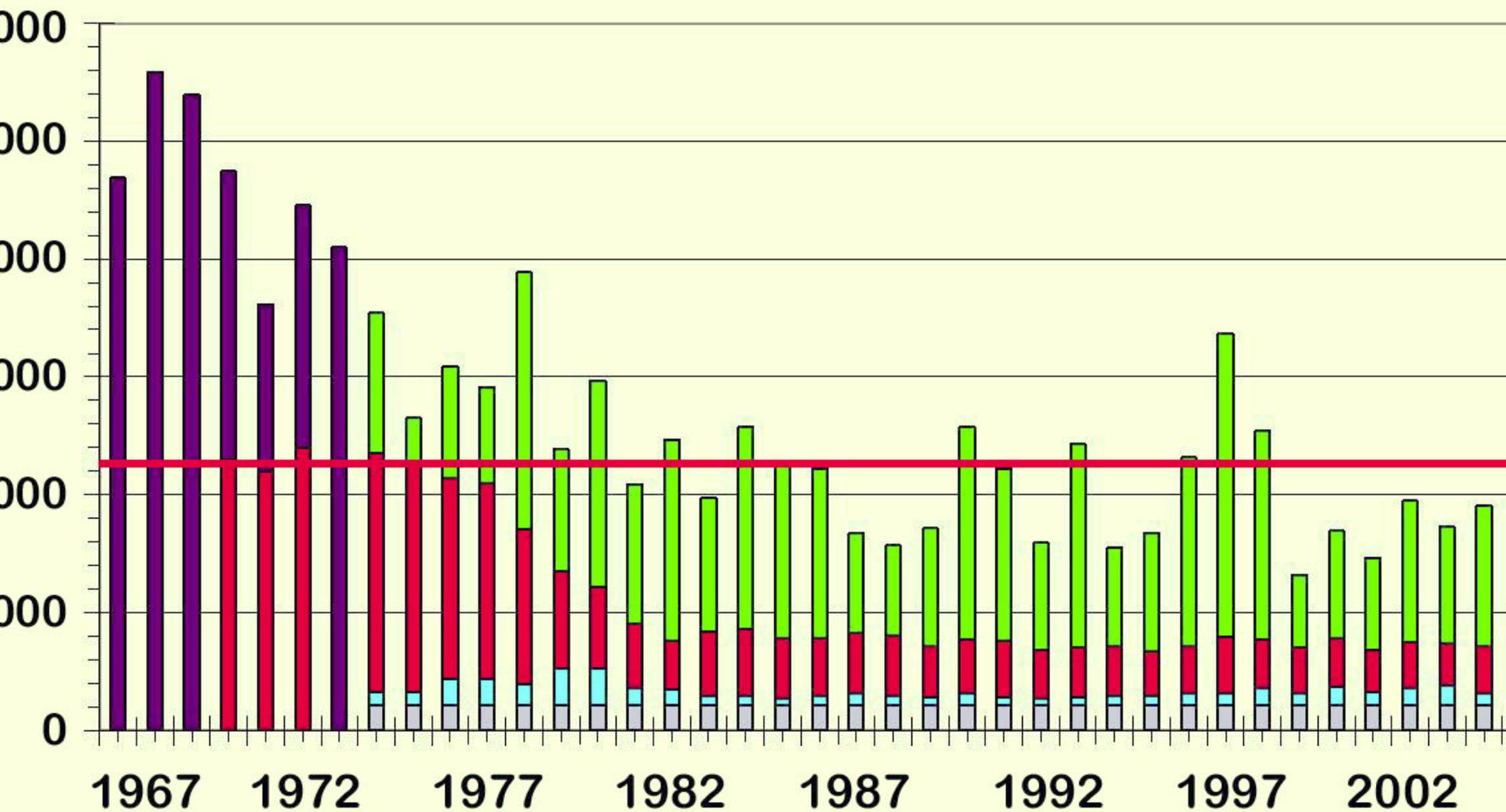
# Conclusions

- CSOs
  - Communities Addressing Overflow Problem
  - Significant Progress Already
  - Additional and Substantial Improvement Next Ten Years
  - Billions of Dollars Improvements, Borne by Local Ratepayers, Significant Economic Burden

# Conclusions

- WWTPs (Municipal Sewage Treatment)
  - Phosphorus Loading expected to Remain Stable Unless Lower P Limit
  - Lowering P Limit to 0.5 mg/L or Lower Likely Require Filtration - Costly
  - Operational Changes Can Lower P Discharge to Close to 0.5 mg/L
- WWTPs and CSOs 'Relatively' Small Part of Overall Load

# Lake Erie Total Phosphorus Load by Major Source<sup>1</sup>



# Questions???



*Photo: Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District*

# References

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