



John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director

June 10, 2013

Dear Interested Party/Stakeholder:

I would like to take this opportunity to send you a copy of the public notice issued by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) announcing the issuance of the draft permit for the renewal of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit addressing discharges to waters of the state from select household sewage treatment systems (HSTS).

As indicated by the enclosed public notice, Ohio EPA and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) have worked together in the development of this general permitting program, evaluating not only the potential content of the permit, but an implementation plan as well. Ohio EPA has taken into consideration current implementation of the existing general permit program itself in making appropriate and necessary revisions to the draft permit. The draft general permit is and has been developed while ODH is working on anticipated revisions to Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3701-29: Household Sewage Treatment Rules outlined by recent legislation revising Ohio Revised Code 3718. ODH is currently actively working towards necessary and appropriate revisions to the Household Sewage Treatment Rules of which a version has been made available for interested party review to all parties involved. Together, these two initiatives will significantly enhance the oversight of these discharging systems in protection of Ohio's water resources.

The attached public notice outlines how additional information pertaining to the draft permit can be obtained and how you can express further interest or input in this permitting process. If you have any comments or questions, please contact Mark Stump of my staff at (614) 644-2028.

Sincerely,

George Elmaraghy, Chief
Division of Surface Water

Attachment