

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program

**REVISED PUBLIC NOTICE WITH PUBLIC HEARING
OF
DRAFT GENERAL PERMIT AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR
DISCHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH COAL SURFACE MINING ACTIVITIES**

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Surface Water, Permits Section
50 West Town Street, Suite 700
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049
(614) 644-2001

Public Notice No. : 16-02-030
Date of Public Notice: February 19, 2016

Public notice was given on February 19, 2016 that the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), Division of Surface Water (DSW) has proposed a draft permit for the renewal of a statewide general permit to cover new and existing point source dischargers associated with coal surface mining activities to surface waters of the State of Ohio.

The discharges that may receive coverage under this general permit may result in new discharges of pollutants to waters of the state, and therefore there may be a lowering of water quality, or degradation to these receiving waters. However, the chemical-specific water quality criteria developed to protect aquatic life and human health, set forth in OAC 3745-1, will not be exceeded. In accordance with OAC 3745-1-05, an antidegradation review will be conducted during the development of the general permit to determine the appropriateness and magnitude of coverage under the general permit and the associated potential lowering of water quality.

Ohio EPA will hold a public hearing on the draft general NPDES permit at 2:00 P.M. on May 4, 2016 at Ohio EPA Central Office, 50 West Town Street, 6th Floor, Conference Room A, Columbus, Ohio 43215. The public hearing will end when all interested parties have had an opportunity to provide testimony related to the draft permit. All interested persons are entitled to attend or be represented and give written and/or oral comments on the draft permit. The purpose of the hearing is to obtain additional information that will be considered by the Director of Ohio EPA prior to any further action on the draft permit.

Ohio EPA will continue to accept written comments on the draft permit through the close of business on May 11, 2016. Comments received after this date may not be considered as part of the official record of the hearing. Anyone may submit written comments or request to be placed on an interested parties' mailing list by writing to: Ohio EPA-DSW, Attention: Permits Processing Unit, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049 or via email to:

epa.dswcomments@epa.ohio.gov.

Copies of the draft general NPDES permit, fact sheet, and documentation can be obtained on the Ohio EPA-DSW web page at: http://epa.ohio.gov/dsw/permits/GP_CoalSurfaceMining.aspx or by contacting Ohio EPA's Central Office at 614-644-2001.