BEFORE THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Public Notice Proposed Rulemaking Governing Wastewater Permitting

Notice is hereby given that the Director of Environmental Protection, under the authority of Ohio Revised Code sections 6111.03, 6111.042, 6111.12 and 6111.46, proposes to amend rules 3745-2-05, 3745-33-01, 3745-33-03, 3745-33-04 and 3745-33-08 of the Administrative Code and adopt new rule 3745-33-06 of the Administrative Code.

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Chapter 3745-2 covers the technical process for converting Ohio water quality standards to wasteload allocations that can be used as permit limits. The NPDES permit rules (OAC Chapter 3745-33) contain the administrative and technical requirements for writing and obtaining National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits from Ohio EPA.

The reasons for these rule amendments and new rule are: 1) to convert broadly applicable policies to rule; 2) to correct an error made in a 2002 rulemaking; 3) to settle an appeal of the Ohio River water quality standards; 4) to update administrative rules; and 5) to add protections for public water supplies and public notification of NPDES outfall locations.

A public hearing on the proposed rules will be held on Thursday, June 29, 2006 at the Ohio EPA Central Office, fifth floor conference room A, located in the Lazarus Government Center at 122 South Front Street in Columbus, Ohio. The public hearing will begin at 2:00 p.m. and adjourn when commenters complete their statements.

All interested persons are entitled to attend or be represented at the hearing and give written or oral comments on the proposed rules. Written comments may be filed with the presiding officer at the hearing or with Ohio EPA (Attn: Eric Nygaard, Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049) by the close of business on Friday, July 7, 2006. Comments received after that date may be considered as time and circumstances permit.

To obtain copies of the proposed rules, contact Eric Nygaard at the address above or by calling (614) 644-2024. Copies of the proposed rules are also available on the Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water Web site at www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw and the Register of Ohio Web site at www.registerofohio.state.oh.us.

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