

State of Ohio
Environmental Protection Agency

PUBLIC NOTICE

July 14, 2006

Notice of Proposed Rule-making and Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters (DDAGW) is proposing two new rules in Chapter 3745-88 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) for the purposes of providing loan assistance and subsidy to public water systems serving disadvantaged communities. Proposed OAC rules 3745-88-01 and 3745-88-02 outline the application process, how public water systems may qualify for disadvantaged assistance, and what kind of assistance is available.

As part of the rule-making process, the Agency is required by Section 121.39 of the Ohio Revised Code to consult with organizations that represent political subdivisions, environmental interests, business interests, and others affected by the rules. The Agency is offering you and your organization the opportunity to comment on these rules before the division adopts them.

A public hearing pursuant to §119.03 of the Ohio Revised Code will be conducted on August 22, 2006, beginning at 10:00 AM in conference room B at the Ohio EPA, Lazarus Government Center, 122 South Front Street, Columbus, Ohio. All interested persons are entitled to attend or be represented and give their written or oral comments on this proposed rule-making. A presiding officer will be present until all interested persons have been heard.

To facilitate scheduling of oral presentations, persons intending to give testimony at the hearing should ensure that Ohio EPA receives notice of such intent by 5:00 p.m. on August 18, 2006. Persons who provide Ohio EPA with prior notice will be heard ahead of persons who register at the hearing. To provide notice of intent to give oral comments at the public hearing, contact Kelly Peavler, Ohio EPA, DDAGW, Lazarus Government Center, P. O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049.

In order to ensure that written comments are considered as part of the official record of this hearing, written comments must be received by Ohio EPA by the close of business August 22, 2006. Written comments on the proposed rules may be given to the presiding officer during the hearing, sent by mail to Kelly Peavler at the address above, or sent by email to the following address ddagw_rulecomments@epa.state.oh.us.

To obtain a copy of the proposed rules, contact Donna Roberts at Ohio EPA at (614) 644-2755 or email at donna.roberts@epa.state.oh.us. Please request the "proposed disadvantaged community loan rules" and, if a recorded message is left, be sure to include your name, telephone number, and complete mailing address. There is no charge for

proposed rules. The proposed rules will be available on the Agency web page until their adoption or withdrawal. The address is: <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw/oac.html>.

Questions concerning this proposed rule-making, other than obtaining copies of the proposed rules, may be addressed to Kelly Peavler at the above address or by phone at (614) 644-2752. Email can be sent to kelly.peavler@epa.state.oh.us.