



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
Region 1  
**5 Post Office Sq., Suite 100**  
**BOSTON, MA 02109-3912**

March 20, 2014

Michael Kuhns, Director  
Bureau of Land and Water Quality  
Maine Department of Environmental Protection  
17 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0017

Re: Maine's 2012 Clean Water Act §303(d) List

Dear Mr. Kuhns:

Thank you for Maine's submittal of the State's 2012 Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) list on February 21, 2014. In accordance with §303(d) of the CWA and 40 CFR §130.7, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted a complete review of Maine's 2012 §303(d) list. Based on this review, EPA has determined that Maine's 2012 §303(d) list of water quality limited segments still requiring total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) meets the requirements of CWA §303(d) and EPA's implementing regulations. Therefore, EPA hereby approves Maine's decision to include the waters the State placed in Categories 5A, 5B, and 5D of Maine's 2012 integrated list of surface waters, as well as Maine's decision to remove specific waters from the 2012 list.

The submittal includes a list of those waters for which technology-based and other required controls for point and nonpoint sources are not stringent enough to attain or maintain compliance with the State's Water Quality Standards. The submittal also presents Maine's TMDL strategy, which describes a priority-setting approach and identifies those waters for which TMDLs will be completed and submitted to EPA over time. The statutory and regulatory requirements, and EPA's review of Maine's compliance with each requirement, are described in detail in the enclosed approval document.

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (ME DEP) also successfully completed two public participation processes, one in 2013, and one in 2014, during which the public was given the opportunity to review and comment on the State's proposed §303(d) list, then subsequent changes to that list in response to public comment. As a result of this effort, Maine has considered public comments in the development of the final list. A summary of the public comments and ME DEP's response to comments were included in the final submittal.

We greatly appreciate the effort by your staff towards the preparation and submittal of the 2012 list. My staff and I look forward to continued cooperation with ME DEP in implementing the requirements under Section 303(d) of the CWA. Please feel free to contact me or Jennie Bridge at 617-918-1685 if you have any questions or comments on our review.

Sincerely,

/s/

Kenneth Moraff, Director  
Office of Ecosystem Protection

Enclosure

Cc (electronic):

Susanne Meidel, ME DEP  
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