UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

NOV 21 2011

Mr. James P. Bearzi, Chief
Surface Water Quality Bureau
P. O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Dear Mr. Bearzi:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has received the final document entitled *Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Mainstem of the Canadian River [from Texas to Colorado] and Select Tributary Streams*. Based on our review, we conclude that the TMDLs listed above meet the requirements found in Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and the implementing regulations found at 40 CFR §130.7. The EPA approves the loadings contained in the TMDL, as specified in the enclosed tables.

In particular, the Pajarito Creek TMDL establishes a Wasteload Allocation and a Load Allocation based upon the ecoregion values for Total Phosphorus, 0.03mg/L, and, for Total Nitrogen, 0.45mg/L.

The EPA notes the suggested timelines for implementation contained in the TMDL, but neither approves nor disapproves implementation plans. Appropriate schedules for attaining the TMDL goals will be determined as part of the permitting process.

We understand that questions about the frequency that discharges from the Tucumcari Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) actually reach the Canadian River were raised during the comment period on the TMDL. If the WWTP discharges were not continuously reaching the Canadian River during periods when sampling indicated the segment was impaired, the EPA would support further study of this issue – perhaps in connection with reissuance of the permit, the next scheduled stream survey, and /or re-evaluation of the TMDL.

We commend you and your staff for the considerable effort that went into developing these TMDLs. If you would like to discuss these approvals, please contact me at (214) 665-7101 or Linda Adams of my staff at (214) 665-6546.

Sincerely yours,

William K. Honker, P.E.
Acting Director
Water Quality Protection Division

Enclosure

cc: James Hogan, NMED
Heidi Henderson, NMED

TMDL Loads And Concentrations

Waterbody	Segment	Pollutant	WLA	LA	MOS	TMDL	Target Concen.
Canadian River	NM-2305.A_000	E. coli	0	1.41×10^{11} cfu/day	2.49×10^{10} cfu/day	1.66×10^{11} cfu/day	126 cfu/100mL
Canadian River	NM-2303_00	E. coli	0	2.56×10^{9} cfu/day	4.51×10^{8} cfu/day	3.01×10^{9} cfu/day	
Pajarito Creek	NM-2303_10	E. coli	4.39×10^{9} cfu/day	5.31×10^{8} cfu/day	9.36×10^{7} cfu/day	5.01×10^{9} cfu/day	

Waterbody	Segment	Pollutant	WLA	LA	MOS	TMDL	Target Concen.
Revuelto Creek	NM-2301_10	Dissolved Boron	0	1.11 lbs/day	0.197 lbs/day	1.31 lbs/day	423 ug/L

Waterbody	Segment	Pollutant	WLA	LA	MOS	TMDL	Target Concen.
Canadian River	NM-2305.A_200	Total Phosphorus	0	0.098 lbs/day	0.017 lbs/day	0.115 lbs/day	0.03 mg/L
Pajarito Creek	NM-2303_10	Total Phosphorus	0.23 lbs/day	0.028 lbs/day	0.005 lbs/day	0.263 lbs/day	
Uña de Gato Creek	NM-2305.A_254	Total Phosphorus	0	0.041 lbs/day	0.007 lbs/day	0.048 lbs/day	
Uña de Gato Creek	NM-2305.A_30	Total Phosphorus	0	0.041 lbs/day	0.007 lbs/day	0.048 lbs/day	

Canadian River	NM-2305.A_200	Total Nitrogen	0	1.47 lbs/day	0.260 lbs/day	1.73 lbs/day	0.45 mg/L
Pajarito Creek	NM-2303_10	Total Nitrogen	3.45 lbs/day	0.416 lbs/day	0.074 lbs/day	3.94 lbs/day	
Uña de Gato Creek	NM-2305.A_254	Total Nitrogen	0	0.606 lbs/day	0.107 lbs/day	0.713 lbs/day	
Uña de Gato Creek	NM-2305.A_30	Total Nitrogen	0	0.606 lbs/day	0.107 lbs/day	0.713 lbs/day	