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

September 18, 2019

James Kenney, Secretary
New Mexico Environment Department
Post Office Box 5469
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

RE: Approval of the *Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Canadian River Watershed*

Dear Mr. Kenney:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has received the New Mexico Surface Water Quality Bureau's request for EPA review and approval of the final document titled *Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Canadian River Watershed* (henceforth, 'Final Report'). EPA received the final document and submission letter on August 23, 2019. The Final Report includes a total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for temperature, aluminum, *E. coli*, and plant nutrients.

Based on our review, we conclude that the TMDLs contained in the Final Report 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 is pleased to approve the TMDLs contained in the Final Report as summarized in the enclosed table. The EPA also acknowledges that these TMDLs will be incorporated as updates to the State of New Mexico Water Quality Management Plan and the Continuing Planning Process (WQMP/CPP).

We appreciate the opportunity to work closely with the SWQB, and 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 Laura Hunt of my staff at (214) 665-9729.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Maguire
Director
Water Division

Enclosure (1)

cc: Heidi Henderson, NMED, Assessment and TMDL Team
Kris Barrios, NMED Program Manager for Monitoring, Assessment & Standards Section
John Verheul, NMED, Office of General Counsel

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Enclosure:

Summary Table for the *Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Canadian River Watershed*

Table 1: TMDL Allocations for the Canadian River Watershed				
Pollutant	**TMDL**	**WLA**	**LA**	**MOS**
Canadian River (Ute Reservoir to Conchas Reservoir), NM-2303_00				
Temperature	3.23×10^8 kJ/day	0	2.91×10^8	3.23×10^7
Conchas River (Conchas Reservoir to Salitre Creek)				
Total Recoverable Aluminum Chronic	1.67 lb/day	0	1.50	0.17
E. coli	5.86×10^8 cfu/day	0	5.27×10^8	5.86×10^7
Total phosphorus	0.06 lbs/day	0	0.05	0.01
Total nitrogen	0.65 lbs/day	0	0.59	0.07
Coyote Creek (Mora River to headwaters),				
Temperature	7.29×10^7 kJ/day	0	6.56×10^7	7.29×10^6
Total phosphorus	0.15 lbs/day	0	0.14	0.02
Total nitrogen	0.93 lbs/day	0	0.83	0.09
East Fork Chicorica Creek (Chicorica Creek to headwaters)				
E. coli	5.04×10^8 cfu/day	0	4.54×10^8	5.04×10^7
Dry Cimarron River (perennial reaches OK bnd to Long Canyon)				
Temperature	9.79×10^7 kJ/day	0	8.81×10^7	9.79×10^6
Total phosphorus	0.11 lbs/day	0	0.1	0.01
Total nitrogen	1.14 lbs/day	0	1.02	0.11
Long Canyon (perennial reaches above Dry Cimarron)				
Temperature	5.04×10^7 kJ/day	0	4.54×10^7	5.04×10^6
Mora River (USGS gage east of Shoemaker to HWY 434)				
E. coli	5.17×10^9 cfu/day	2.48×10^8	4.40×10^9	5.17×10^8
Pajarito Creek (perennial portions Canadian River to Vigil Canyon)				
Temperature	5.93×10^7 kJ/day	0	5.34×10^7	5.93×10^6
Raton Creek (Chicorica Creek to headwaters)				
Total phosphorus	0.59 lbs/day	0.46*	0.07	0.06
Total nitrogen	6.29 lbs/day	4.88*	0.78	0.63

E. coli	5.54×10^9 cfu/day	4.30×10^9	6.86×10^8	5.54×10^8
Tinaja Creek (West Fork Tinaja Creek to headwaters)				
E. coli	6.56×10^8 cfu/day	0	5.90×10^8	6.56×10^7

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