



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GREAT LAKES
LANSING



PATRICIA BIRKHOLZ
DIRECTOR

May 10, 2012

Mr. Chris Korleski, Director
Great Lakes National Program Office
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard (G-17J)
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3507

Dear Mr. Korleski:

I am writing to request the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Great Lakes National Program Office's (GLNPO) concurrence with the removal of the Degradation of Benthos Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI) from the White Lake Area of Concern (AOC). The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), Office of the Great Lakes (OGL) has assessed the status of the BUI in accordance with the state's *Guidance for Delisting Michigan's Great Lakes Areas of Concern*, and recommends that the BUI be removed from the list of impairments in the White Lake AOC.

Enclosed, please find documentation to support this recommendation, including the BUI Removal Recommendation document prepared by MDEQ staff. The White Lake Public Advisory Council (PAC) submitted a letter supporting this recommendation, which is included with this package. The proposed BUI removal was public noticed via the Mich-RAP listserv, the MDEQ Calendar, the MDEQ AOC program web site, and via the PAC's e-mail list. No written comments were received in response to the public notice period, which ran from April 9, to May 8, 2012.

We value our continuing partnership in the AOC Program and look forward to working with GLNPO in the removal of additional BUIs in the near future. If you need further information concerning this request, please contact Mr. John Riley, OGL, at 517-335-4122, or you may contact me.

Sincerely,

Patricia Birkholz
Director
517-335-4056

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Jeff Auch, Muskegon Conservation District
Mr. John Perrecone, U.S. EPA
Mr. Dan Wyant, MDEQ
Mr. Frank Ruswick, OGL
Mr. Richard Hobria, OGL
Mr. John Riley, OGL