



Water Withdrawal Assessment Tool Process & Status Update

Source Water Protection Conference
Mt. Pleasant, October 30, 2019

Outline

- Great Lakes Compact, Part 327, & Safe Drinking Water Act
- Authorization Process for Public Water Supplies
- Decision Criteria
- Aquifer Dispute Resolution
- Potential Water Use Conflict Areas
- Other Issues
- Questions

Great Lakes Compact



Part 327, Great Lakes Preservation

- Baseline capacity reported < 4/1/2009
- New or increased withdrawals > 100,000 gallons per day
- 70 gallons per minute rated pump capacity
- New or increased withdrawals register using Water Withdrawal Assessment Tool (WWAT)
- Site-specific reviews (SSR)
- Alternative Analysis
- New or increased withdrawals > 2 MGD require permit
- Prohibits diversions

Site Specific Review

Uses best available geologic, hydrologic & other info

May update stream index flow

May modify withdrawal location, depth & pumping schedule to avoid ARI

Applicant can submit additional data

Alternative Analysis

- 2018 PA 209
- Available for LQWs ≤ 1 MGD
- Qualified Consultant Submits Analysis
- Restricts Reasons for Denials
- Deadline for EGLE's Decision
- Missed Deadline=Authorization

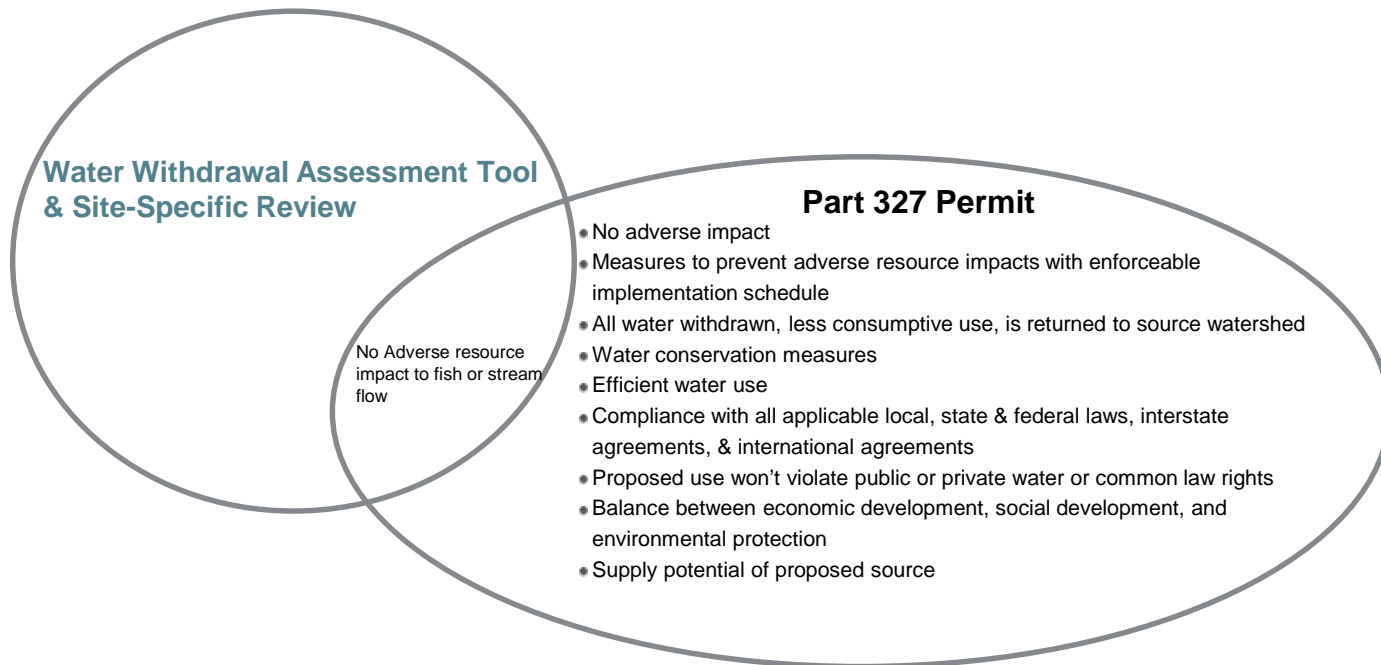
Pre-Screening for Public Water Supplies

- SDWA exemptions from Part 327 requirements
- Coordination with WRD Water Use Program
- WWAT screening for new or increased capacity
- Informal site-specific review

Bottled Water

- Section 17 permit > 200,000 gallons per day
- Section 17 decision criteria include Part 327 permit criteria

Water Withdrawal and Bottled Water Decision Criteria

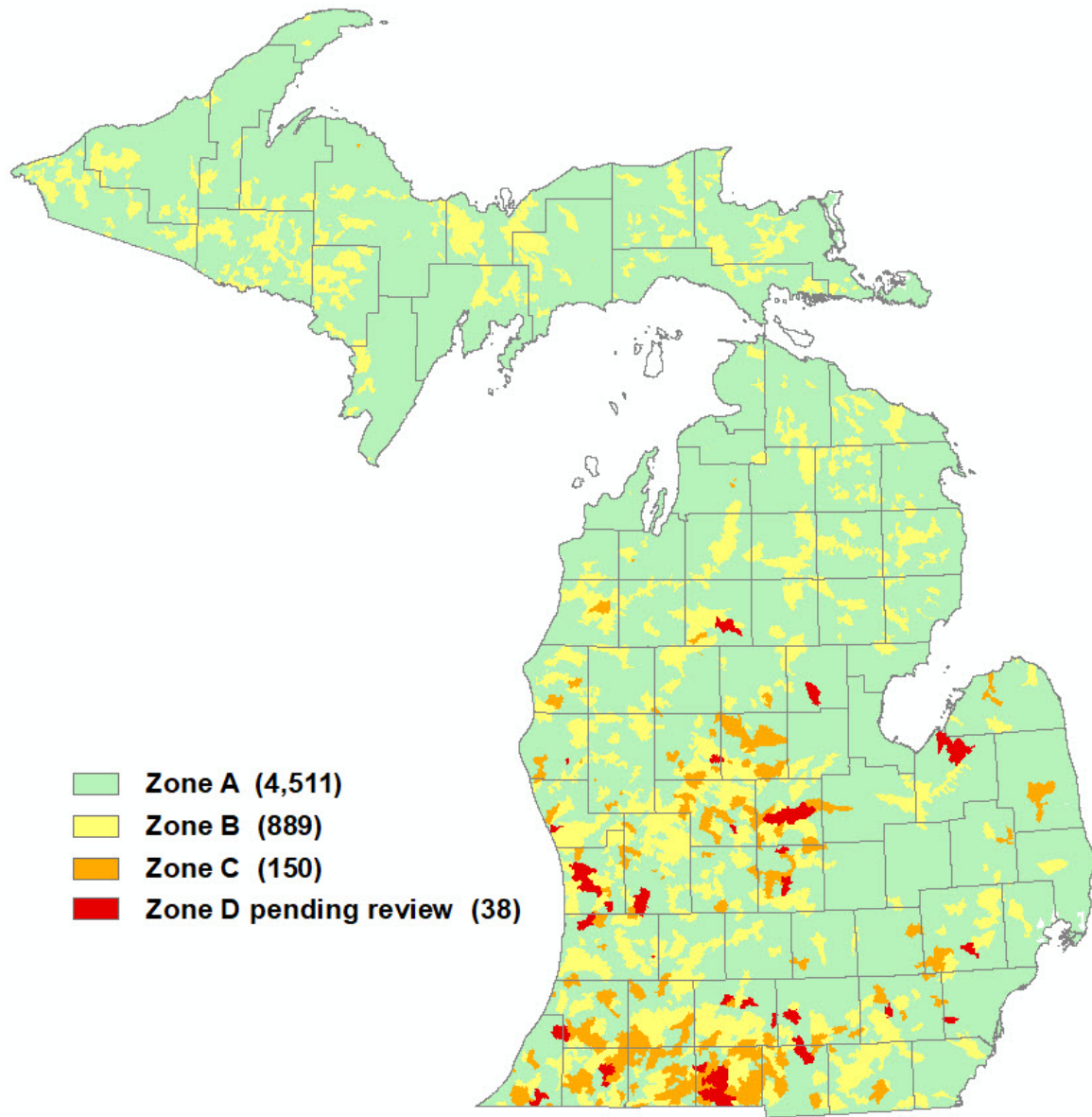


Aquifer Dispute Resolution

- Part 317 of the NREPA
- MDARD handles agriculture wells
- WRD handles other LQWs
- Licensed well driller rules out other problems
- Reimburse small well owner for some costs
- Most high capacity well owners resolve issues
- DEQ and MDARD Directors can declare groundwater dispute
- Order wells to stop or reduce pumping
- Order alternate water supplied
- Exemptions

Potential Water Use Conflicts

- Central Ottawa County
- Marshall Area, Calhoun County
- Other depleted watersheds



Other Issues

- Water User Committees
- Water Use Education Committees
- Documenting Adverse Resource Impacts
- 2018 PA 209 Implementation
- Civil/Water Rights Law vs. Part 327

Questions?

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