Interim Strategy for Minerals

Quarterly Report
(2\textsuperscript{nd} Quarter)

Arkansas Department
of Environmental
Quality

September 15, 2014
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Introduction

Minerals include chlorides (Cl), sulfates (SO4), and total dissolved solids ("TDS"). Arkansas has adopted water quality criteria and eco-region values for minerals in Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (APC&EC) Regulation 2, specifically, at Reg. 2.511.

Reg. 2.511(A) refers to site-specific criteria. Reg. 2.511(B) refers to Eco-region values, which are based on Arkansas’s least disturbed ecoregion reference streams and are considered to be the maximum naturally occurring levels. The eco-region values help identify waterbodies which should be considered as candidates for site specific criteria development. Reg. 2.511(C) set out Arkansas' minerals criteria for domestic water supplies. These criteria are the same as the secondary drinking water standards (250 mg/L for chlorides, 250 mg/L for sulfates and 500 mg/L for TDS) adopted by EPA under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

Permits

Arkansas has issued 33 permits with minerals limits and 30 permits with monitoring and reporting requirements. Twenty-three (23) of those permits are in house for renewal or modification and are currently on hold. The 23 permits currently on hold are listed in the chart below. Information in the chart is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Permit number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Facility Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Expiration Date of the permit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Existing Permits with minerals requirements (i.e. limit or M&amp;R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Re-issuance (Future) Permits requiring new effluent limits for minerals</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Basis for including minerals limits in the permit</td>
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</tbody>
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M&R – Monitoring and Reporting
TDS - Total Dissolved Solids
SO4-Sulfates
Cl- Chlorides
CPP-Continuing Planning Process
UAA-Use Attainability Analysis
Revisions to minerals standards: The 2013 Triennial Review of the surface water quality standards found in Regulation No. 2 included revisions to Reg. 2.511 “Mineral Quality.” These proposed changes were adopted by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission on February 28, 2014. The State approved regulation was received by USEPA for review and approval on March 16, 2014. To date, EPA has not issued a final decision on the rulemaking.

Revisions to assessment: During development of the Assessment Methodology for the 2014 Listing of Impaired Waterbodies, the exceedance rate for site specific minerals criteria was revised from 10% to 25%.

Progress of the EPA-funded study: Evaluation of three approaches for developing minerals criteria is ongoing.