

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR WATER QUALITY DATA AND INFORMATION

Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Environmental Assessment
Water Quality Assessment Division

Public Request for Water Quality Data and Information Pursuant to the 2006 Integrated Report (§303(d) and §305(b)) on Water Quality

In preparation of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality's (LDEQ's) 2006 Clean Water Act (CWA), §303(d) List, the Office of Environmental Assessment (OEA) is soliciting any and all information and data regarding those water body subsegments assessed by LDEQ. Section 303(d) of the CWA, a component of the Integrated Report, requires the biennial identification of those water bodies in which water quality standards applicable to such waters are not being met. Those water bodies determined to be on the §303(d) list shall be prioritized in order to establish total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) or other management strategies as deemed necessary to promote the protection and propagation of a balanced population of shellfish, fish, and wildlife, and allow recreational activities in and on the water.

The OEA currently assesses 480 water bodies using data from over 650 water quality network sample sites, records of spills or complaints, fish tissue contamination data, and the best professional judgment of our regional staff. (Approximately one-half of these 480 water bodies are assessed during each biennial Integrated Report cycle.) In order to supplement this assessment information, LDEQ is requesting any and all data and information pertaining to Louisiana water bodies. Scientifically valid data and information collected as part of a governmental agency, university, industry, or private organization study can be submitted for consideration in assessing Louisiana's water bodies. All data and information must comply with requirements set forth in LDEQ's *Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)-Ambient Water Quality Monitoring Network*. Data or information that falls outside the scope of LDEQ's Water Quality QAPP must be reviewed by LDEQ for scientific merit and accuracy. Failure to meet these requirements may preclude use of the data or information for water quality assessment purposes. An individual responsible for the quality and accuracy of any information or data submitted must attest to that accuracy by signing the attached certification form. LDEQ will determine the ultimate suitability for inclusion of all data and information submitted.

Copies of the above referenced guidance manuals and a list of Louisiana's water body subsegments can be reviewed or purchased by contacting the Public Records group within LDEQ. Public Records is located in Galvez Building, Room 127, 602 N. Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. Hours of operation are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. If you need assistance, please contact them by phone at (225) 219-3168 or email publicrecords@LA.GOV. You may also wish to go directly to the Public Records web page at: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2231/Default.aspx>. The standard copy fee of \$0.25 per page will be charged for copying. A list of Louisiana's water body subsegments can be found on LDEQ's web site at: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/Default.aspx?tabid=2201>. The list of subsegments as well as the 2004 water quality assessments are found at Appendix A on this web page.

All relevant data and information should be sent to:

Albert Hindrichs, Integrated Report Coordinator
Office of Environmental Assessment
Water Quality Assessment Division
Standards, Assessments, & Nonpoint Section
P.O. Box 4314
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4314

Please include appropriate quality assurance/quality control documentation so that suitability of the data can be determined. Reference must be made to LDEQ's water body subsegment codes so that all data and information can be assigned to the correct water body. **The deadline for receipt of information is October 27, 2006.**

If you have any questions concerning LDEQ's 2006 list of impaired water bodies CWA, §303(d)) or this request for information please contact Mr. Albert Hindrichs at (225) 219-3590.

Quality Assurance/Quality Control Certification

I attest that I am familiar with LDEQ's quality assurance/quality control procedures and hereby certify that the attached information or data, submitted for consideration as part of Louisiana's 2006 §303(d) listing procedures, meets or exceeds these requirements. LDEQ's QA/QC protocol for water quality monitoring is defined in the document: *Quality Assurance Project Plan-Ambient Water Quality Monitoring Network*. Further, all persons involved in collection and analysis of this information or data have been properly trained and supervised in appropriate QA/QC procedures as defined above.

Signature _____
Title _____
Date _____
Telephone _____
Email address _____