POTPOURRI

Department of Environmental Quality

Office of the Secretary

Legal Affairs and Criminal Investigations Division

Notice of Public Hearing and Request for Comments to Initiate

Triennial Review of Louisiana Water Quality Standards

In accordance with Section 303(c)(1) of the federal Clean Water Act, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality hereby gives notice of its intent to initiate a review of Louisiana’s Water Quality Standards (WQS), which can be found in LAC 33:IX.Chapter 11. This review is being conducted to evaluate the need to update or revise the WQS in order to remain consistent with state and federal law. The review will also ensure that Louisiana’s WQS continue to reflect the best available science and support sound water quality management policies to improve and protect the water resources of the state. This is a preliminary step in the review and potential rulemaking process. Official rulemaking, if necessary, will be initiated after review and consideration of the comments received. (2103Pot2)

With this notice the department is soliciting comments from interested parties and members of the public on any aspect of the WQS that the department should consider for potential revision. Persons commenting should reference this potpourri notice, 2103Pot2. A public hearing will be held via Zoom on April 28, 2021, at 1:30 p.m. Interested persons are invited to attend and submit oral comments via PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android at https://deqlouisiana.zoom.us/j/84625190124?pwd=ZVVxeXIyMStOcTFVUURTcHlHVVlrQT09 using the password: 382195 or by telephone by dialing 636-651-3182 and entering conference code 725573.

Interested persons are invited to attend and submit oral comments on any aspect of the WQS which they would like the Department to consider. Interested persons may also submit written comments. Comments should include the name of the commenter and the organization that they are representing, if appropriate, and are due no later than 4:30 p.m., April 28, 2021, and should be sent to Jamie Phillippe, Office of Environmental Assessment, Water Planning and Assessment Division, P.O. Box 4314, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4314. Electronic comments may be submitted via e-mail to WQ.Standards@la.gov.

Written responses to the comments will not be provided. Progress on the triennial review will be communicated to the public through the Water Planning and Assessment Division, Water Quality Standards and Assessment webpage, https://www.deq.louisiana.gov/page/water-quality. Any proposed revisions to the WQS resulting from the review will be subject to the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

Courtney J. Burdette

General Counsel