



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1

1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

May 15, 2009

Laurie Burt, Commissioner  
Department of Environmental Protection  
1 Winter Street  
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Approval of the Pathogen TMDL for the Buzzards Bay Watershed

Dear Commissioner Burt:

Thank you for submitting the Final Pathogen TMDL for the Buzzards Bay Watershed on March 26, 2009. We appreciate your extensive efforts and involvement with our office to finalize this TMDL. We believe this TMDL combined with the other pathogen watershed TMDLs in various stages of development within the Commonwealth will be a catalyst in the restoration of this and other watersheds.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the document entitled "Final Pathogen TMDL for the Buzzards Bay Watershed, March 2009 (Control Number 251.1) and it is my pleasure to approve the 52 TMDLs. EPA has determined, as set forth in the enclosed review document, that these TMDLs meet the requirements of Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and EPA's implementing regulations at 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 130.

We commend your efforts again to develop "pollution prevention" TMDLs on water body segments not currently impaired. This approach can encourage the maintenance and protection of existing water quality and help prevent further degradation of water bodies that are downstream or linked to other water body segments. Although EPA does not approve pollution prevention TMDLs, EPA acknowledges the establishment of these TMDLs consistent with developing information as set forth in CWA Section 303(d)(3).

Once again, please pass on to your staff in the Division of Watershed Management our appreciation for their excellent work in developing these TMDLs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Moraff", written over a horizontal line.

Ken Moraff, Acting Director  
Office of Ecosystem Protection

Enclosure

cc: Glenn Haas, MassDEP  
Rick Dunn, MassDEP  
Steve Silva, EPA  
Mike Hill, EPA

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