

September 16, 2015

Christopher Korleski, Director U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Great Lakes National Program Office 77 W. Jackson Blvd. (G-17J) Chicago, Illinois 60604-3511

RE: Maumee Area of Concern Beneficial Use Impairment Removal Recommendation

Dear Mr. Korleski:

Ohio EPA and the Maumee Area of Concern (AOC) Advisory Council are requesting concurrence with the recommendation to remove the first beneficial use impairment (BUI) from the Maumee River AOC. The enclosed "Removal Recommendation for the Added Cost to Agriculture & industry Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI #12) in the Maumee Area of Concern" provides a detailed assessment of the BUI and outlines the rationale for removal. Also enclosed is a letter of support from the Maumee AOC Advisory Council.

Ohio EPA worked with the local Advisory Committee to develop the recommendations and discussed the issue during their public quarterly meetings on June 2, 2015 and August 25, 2015. A public comment period was also conducted from July 24 through August 7, 2015. Several comments were received and all were supportive of the proposal to remove the BUI.

The resources provided by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative have been absolutely vital in the restoration of Ohio's AOCs and together with renewed commitment and coordination with the local AOC community were are accelerating progress in the Maumee AOC. We look forward to working with U.S EPA and the Maumee AOC Advisory Committee to remove additional BUIs and move toward delisting the Maumee AOC.

Sincerely,

Craig W. Butler

Director

Enclosures

cc: John Perrecone, U.S.EPA-GLNPO AOC
Kevin O'Donnell, USEPA-GLNPO
John Kusnier, Maumee AOC Advisory Committee, Chair
Shannon Nabors, Ohio EPA- NWDO District Chief
Cherie Blair, Ohio EPA-NWDO Maumee AOC Coordinator
Tiffani Kavalec, Ohio EPA-DSW Chief
Russ Gibson, Ohio EPA-DSW Manager

Removal Recommendation for the Added Cost to Agriculture & Industry Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI #12) in the Maumee Area of Concern

(August 2015)

Issue

The Maumee Area of Concern Advisory Committee (MAAC) and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) request concurrence from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) with the determination that BUI 12: Added Cost to Agriculture and Industry is NOT IMPAIRED in the Maumee Area of Concern (AOC).

Impairment Listing Guideline

In May 2014, the Ohio EPA Lake Erie Program released the *Delisting Guidance and Restoration Targets for Ohio Areas of Concern* (available at http://epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/lakeerie/Ohio AOC Delisting Guidance.pdf). The current state of Ohio listing guideline for BUI 12 is:

State of Ohio Listing Guideline

This beneficial use shall be listed as impaired if:

- 1) Additional costs are incurred by the user to treat the water from the AOC prior to use for agricultural purposes (i.e., including but not limited to, livestock watering, irrigation and crop-spraying) and the additional treatment is due to persistent water quality problems resulting from human activities within the boundaries of the AOC. **AND/OR**
- 2) Additional costs are incurred by the user to treat the water from the AOC for industrial purposes (i.e., intended for commercial or industrial applications and non-contact food processing) and the need for the additional treatment is due to persistent water quality problems resulting from human activities occurring within the boundaries of the AOC.

Impairment Removal Criteria

Also included in the *Delisting Guidance and Restoration Targets for Ohio Areas of Concern* (May 2014) are the beneficial use impairment (BUI) restoration targets for BUI removal. The state of Ohio restoration target for BUI 12 is:

State of Ohio Restoration Target

No additional costs (due to human activities within the AOC) are necessary to treat water from the AOC prior to agricultural, commercial or industrial use.

Potential Data Source

Local survey of agricultural and industrial water users

On June 2, 2015, the MAAC adopted the restoration target in the state of Ohio guidance for BUI 12: Added Cost to Agriculture and Industry.

Justification

Although the MAAC adopted the most recent version of the BUI 12 Restoration Target (June 2015), this target has not significantly changed since the first State of Ohio BUI targets were created in 2005. At that time the BUI was considered to be UNKNOWN for the Maumee AOC.

In 2005 when creating the Maumee AOC Stage 2 Watershed Restoration Plan (January 2006), a diverse community-based committee was tasked to determine the status of each BUI as it would have been in 1990 (when the first BUI status was determined in the Maumee AOC Stage 1 Report) versus the status in 2005 for the major watersheds (HUC 10s). This exercise was to assist the committee in determining if the status of any BUIs had changed, where future projects needed to be focused, and on which BUIs. Based on the committee's findings, a single location was identified in the Maumee AOC as having to incur an added cost to be able to use the waters of the Maumee AOC. Based on this finding, BUI 12 was listed as IMPAIRED for the Maumee AOC in the Delisting Targets for Ohio Areas of Concern (December 2008).

Rationale

(From Delisting Targets for Ohio Areas of Concern, December 2008)

The potential uses of water for agricultural, commercial and industrial purposes can cover a wide range of possibilities and, therefore, a wide range of treatment options, and finally a wide range of treatment costs. Additional treatment must be due to persistent water quality problems and due to human related activities within the AOC. Only one of Ohio's RAPs has identified this beneficial use as impaired in their AOC. It applies to the Ottawa River in the Maumee AOC.

The single location that was identified was Perstorp Polyols. Perstorp used Ottawa River water for non-contact cooling of the different processes used at its formaldehyde manufacturing plant and the cooling water was discharged back to the river upstream of the intake. The water that they withdrew from the Ottawa River required treatment before it could be used.

Due to a pollution spill incident in 1994 that was caused by contamination of the cooling water, Perstorp installed a 9250 gpm capacity cooling tower that utilizes water from the city of Toledo. Use of the river water for cooling was eliminated in 1996 and there is no longer a discharge of cooling water to the river. (see Appendix A)

Conclusions

The only identified source of "Added Cost" for usage is no longer using the waters of the Ottawa River; therefore, the MAAC and Ohio EPA have determined this BUI to be no longer applicable, thus NOT IMPAIRED for the Maumee AOC. It is recognized that there is a wide variety of users of the waters of the Maumee AOC, but none have been determined to require treatment above and beyond normal practices in order for the waters to be usable.

Recommendation

This BUI Removal Recommendation was discussed with the Maumee AOC Advisory Committee at their June 2, 2015 meeting where they voted to proceed with the removal of this beneficial use impairment.

Appendix A Supporting Documentation

REPORT ON DETAIL PLANS FOR A NON-CONTACT WATER COOLING TOWER TO SERVE PERSTORP POLYOLS, INC. CITY OF TOLEDO, LUCAS COUNTY

On September 29, 1995, the Northwest District Office of the Ohio EPA received a permit to install (PTI) application package from Perstorp Polyols, Inc., 600 Matzinger Road, Toledo, Ohio 43612. The submittal included a permit application, detail plans and process description report. The plans were prepared by the Marley Cooling Tower Company.

Currently, Perstorp uses Ottawa River water for non-contact cooling of the different processes used at its formaldehyde manufacturing plant and the cooling water is discharged back to the rinse upstream of the intake. Due to a recent pollution incident in the Ottawa River caused by contamination of the cooling water, Perstorp is proposing installation of a 9250 gpm capacity cooling tower. Make-up water will be from the City of Toledo. Periodic cooling tower blowdown will be discharged into existing City of Toledo sewers. Use of the river water for cooling will be eliminated and there will be no discharge of cooling water to the river. Perstorp shall comply with all City of Toledo standards regarding discharge into the City's sanitary sewers.

Construction is planned to begin October, 1995, and be completed December, 1995. The detail plans for the cooling tower appear adequate and are recommended for approval.

Naajy S. Abdullah

Division of Surface Water

Allen L. Rupp, P.E

District Engineer/Section Manager

Division of Surface Water

/dlh 10/16/95



September 27, 1995

Mr. Naajy Abdullah Ohio EPA Northwest District Office Division of Water Pollution Control 347 North Dunbridge Road Bowling Green, OH 43402 RECEIVED

SEP 2 9 1005

OHIO E.P.A. N.W.D.O.

RE: PERMIT TO INSTALL APPLICATION FOR COOLING TOWER

Dear Mr. Abdullah:

Enclosed is the Permit to Install application for the cooling tower at the Perstorp Formaldehyde Plant. As we have discussed, this cooling tower will eliminate the use of Ottawa River water for non-contact cooling in the existing formaldehyde plant and the new formaldehyde plant planned for 1996. The blowdown from the cooling tower will be discharged to the City of Toledo sanitary sewer.

As part of the Permit to Install application, I have included four (4) sets of drawings for the cooling tower, a site plan indicating the location of the cooling tower, and a check for the application fee and plan review fee of \$5,075.00.

There are no plans for a treatment system for the cooling tower blowdown as we do not foresee the discharge as being outside the limits set forth in the Orders for Wastewater Discharge from the City of Toledo. As I indicated during our telephone conversation, we would like to begin construction of the foundation of the cooling tower during the month of October. However, we understand that we will need Ohio EPA approval and a permit to install prior to starting this project. Therefore, I urge you to contact me immediately if this application package is not complete so that we can proceed with the approval process without delay.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (419) 729-5448.

Very truly yours,

PERSTORP POLYOLS, INC.

Anthony P. Sloma

Environmental/Health & Safety Engineer

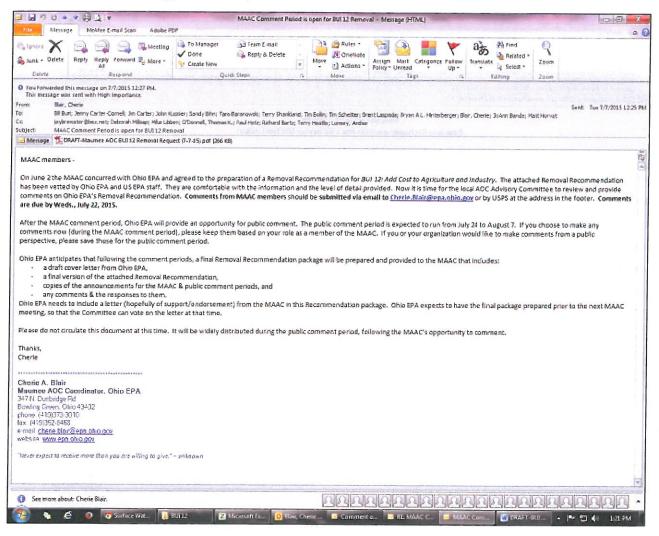
Enclosures

Perstorp Polyols, Inc.

Appendix B Advisory Committee and Public Review Notices

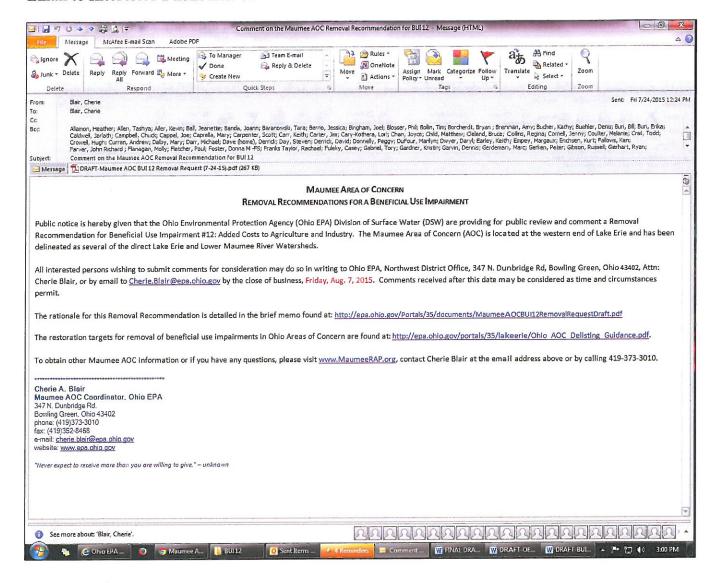
Notice of Maumee AOC Advisory Committee (MAAC) Comment Period (July 7-July 22)

Email to MAAC voting, Ex-officio, and Resource members on 7/7/15



Notice of Public Comment Period (July 24-August 7)

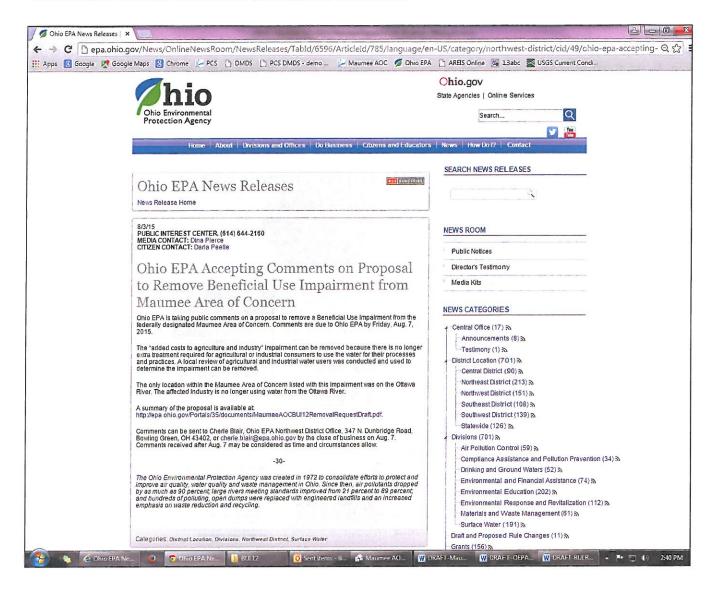
Email to Interested Public List on 7/24/15



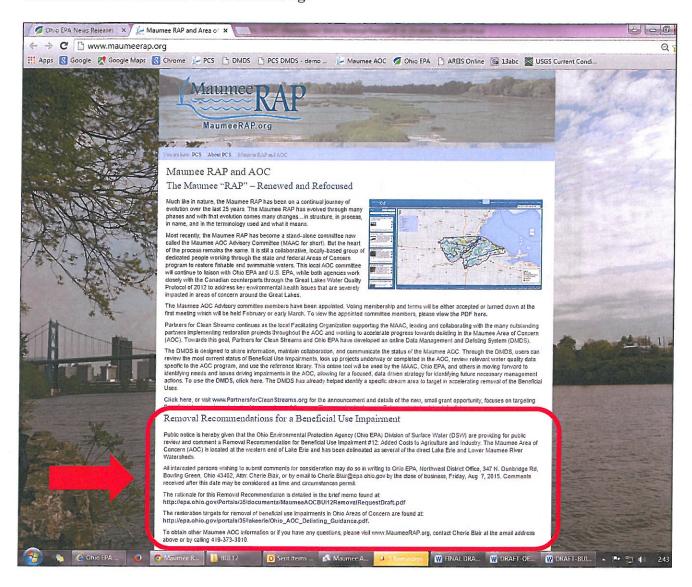
Notification on Ohio EPA's Home Page as a "Top Story"



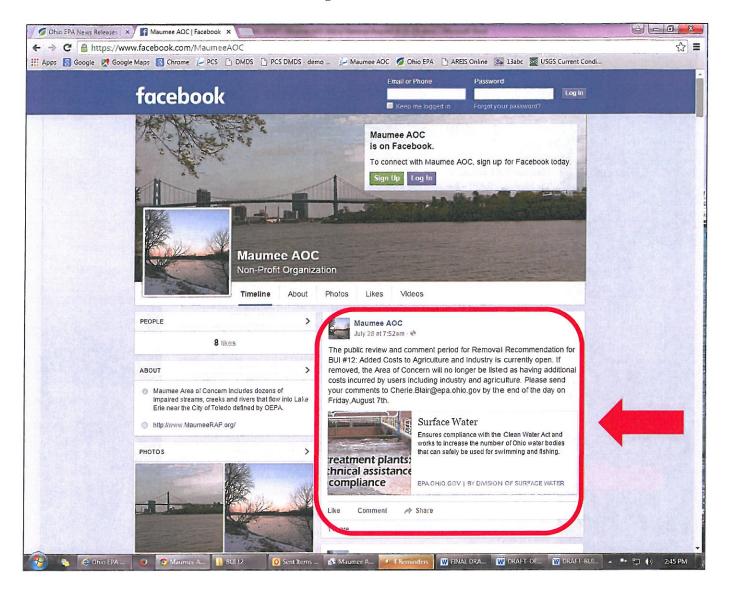
Notification of Press Release on Ohio EPA's Newsroom



Notification on Maumee AOC Home Page



Notification on Maumee AOC Facebook Page



Appendix C Comments Received Regarding BUI 12 Removal Recommendation

From: Dshankland [mailto:dshank1@peoplepc.com]

Sent: Sunday, August 02, 2015 10:01 PM

To: Blair, Cherie

Subject: Re: Comment on the Maumee AOC Removal Recommendation for BUI 12

I would like to state that Perstorp Polyols is a good neighbor and has cleaned up their act. I agree with the MAAC and Ohio EPA request concurrence from the U.S. EPA with the determination that BUI 12: Added Cost to Agriculture and Industry is Not Impaired in the Maumee Area of Concern and a removal recommendation for BUI 12.

The Maumee Area of Concern Advisory Committee (MAAC) and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) request concurrence from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) with the determination that BUI 12: Added Cost to Agriculture and Industry is NOT IMPAIRED in the Maumee Area of Concern.

From: Bill Buri [mailto:bburi@pexcopkg.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2015 2:02 PM

To: Blair, Cherie

Subject: RE: MAAC Comment Period is open for BUI 12 Removal

I have reviewed the draft and approve it as is. Bill Buri

William P. Buri
Pexco Packaging Corporation
795 Berdan Ave.
Toledo, Ohio 43610
419-470-5935 Office
419-265-7179 Cell
bburi@pexcopkg.com

From: Tara Baranowski [mailto:tbaranowski@TNC.ORG]

Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2015 3:07 PM

To: Blair, Cherie

Subject: RE: MAAC Comment Period is open for BUI 12 Removal

Just 2 minor edits:

- First paragraph, last line reads "added Coast..." should be cost.
- In the Justification section, second paragraph, 3rd line, "determine" should be "determined."

Otherwise it reads as we discussed during the MAAC meeting.

Thanks,

Tara

From: Tim Schetter [mailto:tim.schetter@metroparkstoledo.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2015 4:11 PM

To: Blair, Cherie

Subject: RE: MAAC Comment Period is open for BUI 12 Removal

Cherie – I have no objections to removing BUI #12.

Thanks,

Tim

Appendix D Letter of Recommendation from Maumee AOC Advisory Committee



August 27, 2015

Mr. Craig Butler, Director
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049

Dear Director Butler:

The Maumee AOC Advisory Council (MAAC) has reviewed the available data, materials and documents prepared by the Ohio EPA for the removal of the first beneficial use impairment (BUI) in the Maumee Area of Concern; BUI #12: Added Cost to Agriculture and Industry.

On August 26, 2015 the MAAC voted to concur with Ohio EPA that the removal of this beneficial use impairment is warranted, and furthermore encourages Ohio EPA to proceed in submitting the BUI 12 Removal Recommendation to US EPA/GLNPO to begin the process of removing this BUI for the Maumee Area of Concern.

The MAAC will continue its efforts to remove the remaining impairments leading to the delisting and the beneficial use restoration of the Maumee Area of Concern.

Sincerely,

John Kusnier, Chair

Maumee AOC Advisory Committee

cc: Shannon Nabors, Ohio EPA NWDO Amy Jo Klei, Ohio EPA CO-DSW

Cherie Blair, Ohio EPA NWDO-DSW



