



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

David W. Schnare, Esq. Ph.D.  
9033 Brook Ford Road  
Burke, VA 22015

Dear Dr. Schnare:

This is the response to your Request for Correction (RFC 10009)<sup>1</sup> submitted on August 20, 2010, pursuant to the *Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by the Environmental Protection Agency*.<sup>2</sup> In this RFC, you cite concerns about the objectivity and utility of information used to develop the Draft Benthic Total Maximum Daily Load Development for Accotink Creek, Virginia (draft TMDL).<sup>3</sup> The EPA draft TMDL public comment response process will be used to address your information quality concerns.

In July 2010, EPA released the draft TMDL for public review and comment. On August 20, 2010, you submitted a public comment<sup>4</sup>, which includes this RFC. EPA is currently reviewing the public comments that were received. At the conclusion of this review, the Agency will consider all of the public comments, revise the draft TMDL as appropriate, and prepare a decision rationale document. The decision rationale document will include a written response to your information quality concerns as well as a summary response to other public comments that were received. To avoid duplicate actions that would interfere with the on-going TMDL process, we will not use the EPA Information Quality Guidelines Request for Correction process<sup>5</sup> to respond to your RFC.

<sup>1</sup> RFC 10009, August 2010 (<http://epa.gov/quality/informationguidelines/documents/10009.pdf>)

<sup>2</sup> Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, 2002. (67 FR 63657).


<sup>3</sup> Draft Benthic TMDL Development, Accotink Creek, Virginia, EPA, 2010. ([http://www.epa.gov/reg3wapd/tmdl/VA\\_TMDLs/AccotinkCreek/Accotink-Creek-TMDL6-30-2010DRAFT.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/reg3wapd/tmdl/VA_TMDLs/AccotinkCreek/Accotink-Creek-TMDL6-30-2010DRAFT.pdf))

<sup>4</sup> Public Comment and Request for Correction, D. Schnare, 2010.

<sup>5</sup> EPA IQG, page 31.

If you do not believe your information quality concerns are addressed in the final TMDL for Accotink Creek, Virginia, you may submit a new RFC. If you choose to submit an RFC, please send your written request to the EPA IQG Staff via mail (Information Quality Guidelines Processing Staff, Mail Code 2811R, U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20460); electronic mail ([quality@epa.gov](mailto:quality@epa.gov)); or fax (202-565-2441). Additional information about how to submit a RFC can be found on the EPA IQG Web Site ([www.epa.gov/quality/informationguidelines](http://www.epa.gov/quality/informationguidelines)).

Sincerely,



Katherine Chalfant, Acting Director  
Quality Staff

cc: Malcolm D. Jackson, Assistant Administrator and Chief Information Officer,  
Office of Environmental Information, U.S. EPA  
Shawn M. Garvin, Regional Administrator, U.S. EPA Region III  
Gregory Voigt, Office of Standards, Assessment and TMDLs, U.S. EPA Region III  
The Honorable Douglas Domenech,  
Office of the Secretary of Natural Resources, Commonwealth of Virginia  
The Honorable David Paylor, Director,  
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
The Honorable David Johnson, Director,  
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation  
The Honorable Rick Neel, Deputy Attorney General,  
Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Virginia  
Mr. Bryant Thomas, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Ms. Katie Conaway, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Mr. Craig Lott, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality