



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4

ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

MAY 24 2012

Mr. Bill Wulfeck
Northern Kentucky Water Service A
700 Alexandria Pike
Fort Thomas, Kentucky 41075

RE: Achievement of Area-Wide Optimization Program Performance Goals During 2011

Dear Mr. Wulfeck:

Congratulations on your success in meeting goals set by the Kentucky Division of Water for optimized drinking water treatment plant performance for turbidity during 2011! This achievement provides customers of your system enhanced protection against waterborne disease outbreaks. It comes about as a result of the hard work of you and your staff and your commitment to the standards for excellence that are at the heart of the Area-Wide Optimization Program (AWOP).

Since we began AWOP work in partnership with state regulatory agencies and water systems, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has seen the program result in broad-scale water quality improvements and more efficient utility operations. Just in the Southeast, some 6.6 million people are now receiving water from one of 221 water treatment plants that met turbidity optimization goals during 2011. Water systems are limiting the occurrence of disinfection byproducts through improved treatment and better distribution system management. In some cases, AWOP is helping systems avoid costly infrastructure construction projects. Other systems are saving thousands of gallons of treated water every day through improved filter backwash procedures. Over the past 14 years, beneficial outcomes like these have helped AWOP grow from a pilot project involving four southeastern states to a well-established national effort with 22 states participating. As the program continues to evolve, the EPA remains acutely aware that we owe its success, first and foremost, to water systems like yours that are willing to try innovative operational approaches and new ways of conducting business. It is also clear that water systems investing in AWOP are some of those best positioned to deal with the challenges posed by new regulations and aging infrastructure.

The EPA looks forward to your continued support of enhanced public health protection through AWOP in the years to come. We are proud of your work, and again, congratulations on your accomplishment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Becky B. Allenbach", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Becky B. Allenbach, Chief
Safe Drinking Water Branch
Water Protection Division



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