

Responsiveness Summary Concerning EPA's November 5, 2007 Public Notice of Final Decisions to Add Waters and Pollutants to Louisiana's 2006 Section 303(d) List.

Public Participation Activity Conducted

On November 5, 2007 EPA Region 6 published a notice in the Federal Register: Volume 72, Number 213, pages 62476-62477. This public notice requested comments from the public on EPA's Final Decisions to Add Waters and Pollutants to Louisiana's 2006 Section 303(d) Lists.

Summary of Actions

Subsegment LA120707_00 (Lake Boudreaux) was listed in Category 5 of the 2006 303(d) List submittal as impaired for Organic enrichment/low DO and Nutrients. These two waterbody pollutant combinations have been removed from Category 5 of the 2006 Section 303(d) List and are now reported in Category 3. The basis of this decision is further described in the updated 2006 Section 303(d) List Record of Decision.

Three additional waterbody pollutant combinations were removed from EPA's addition to the 2006 Section 303(d) List. These waterbody pollutant combinations were removed due to comments received by the public. The basis of this decision is described in the response to comments below.

Public Comments

The following persons provided written comments during the comment period.

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Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. Ms. Linda Levy, Administrator, Water Quality Assessment Division

1. Data support a conclusion that Marine Dissolved Copper numeric criteria are exceeded for the waterbodies listed.

Sub-segment Description	Parameter	LDEQ Response to EPA's Decision Document	EPA Response to Comments
Pontchartrain Basin (03)			
040904 Bayou Cane-U.S. Hwy 190 to Lake Pontchartrain	Dissolved Copper	Preliminary assessments for Louisiana's 2008 Integrated Report found that this subsegment is impaired due to dissolved copper using criteria and assessment methods agreed upon by EPA and LDEQ. However, this assessment was based only upon routine ambient sampling. Clean-technique follow-up sampling has not been conducted on this subsegment but is being scheduled for the near future. Therefore, Louisiana asks that this subsegment be placed in Integrated Report category 2 until such time as clean-technique data can be collected and analyzed.	EPA followed LDEQ's assessment methodology that greater than 1 exceedance of the applicable criteria results in a finding of non-support of the more stringent marine dissolved copper criterion." <u>See</u> Decision Document For Louisiana's 2006 §303(D) List available at – http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6wq/npdes/tmdl/index.htm#DraftTMD . Therefore the waterbody was re-listed as part of EPA's Approval/Disapproval Action of Louisiana's 2006 § 303(d) List
041202 Bayou Trepagnier- Norco to bayou Labranche (Scenic) (Estuarine)	Dissolved Copper	Preliminary assessments for Louisiana's 2008 Integrated Report found that these two subsegments are now fully supporting dissolved copper criteria using criteria and assessment methods agreed upon by EPA and LDEQ. Louisiana asks that these dissolved copper impairments be removed from these two subsegments.	EPA followed LDEQ's assessment methodology that greater than 1 exceedance of the applicable criteria results in a finding of non-support of the more stringent marine dissolved copper criterion." <u>See</u> Decision Document For Louisiana's 2006 §303(D) List available at – http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6wq/npdes/tmdl/index.htm#DraftTMD . Therefore the waterbody was re-listed as part of EPA's Approval/Disapproval Action of Louisiana's 2006 § 303(d) List
041203 Duncan Canal (Parish Line Canal)- From source at Kenner corporation limits to Lake Pontchartrain (Estuarine)	Dissolved Copper		

2. Freshwater Dissolved Oxygen without site-specific criteria finding of non-support.

Sub-segment Description	Parameter	LDEQ Response to EPA's Decision Document	EPA Response to Comments
Atchafalaya (01)			
010301 West Atchafalaya Basin Floodway-	Organic enrichment/ low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below

Simmesport to Butte LaRose Bay and Henderson Lake			
Barataria (01)			
020402 Bayou Lafourche-Intracoastal Waterway at Larose to Yankee Canal (Estuarine)	Organic enrichment/low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
Calcasieu (02)			
030506 Bundicks Creek-Headwaters to Bundicks Lake	Organic enrichment/low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
030802 Hickory Branch-Headwaters to West Fork Calcasieu River	Organic enrichment/low DO	This was a category 4c listing in LDEQ's 2006 IR, listing should be Group 3 of EPA's decision document. See Attachment A:	Although this waterbody pollutant combination was listed in Category 4c on Louisiana's 2006 303(d) List, according to EPA's assessment method for waterbodies without site specific criteria the waterbody was exceeding its freshwater dissolved oxygen criterion. Therefore the water could be placed under either group of the decision document. See response to Attachment A below.
Mermentau (01)			
050102 Bayou Joe Marcel-Headwaters to Bayou Des Cannes	Organic enrichment/low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
Mississippi (03)			
070503 Capitol Lake	Organic enrichment/low DO Nutrients	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
070601 Mississippi River Basin Coastal Bays and Gulf Waters to State three-mile limit	Organic enrichment/low DO	This subsegment consists of open bays and coastal waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Aside from data analysis considerations it is very unlikely that this area is impacted by low DO. See Attachment A:	EPA conducted a reassessment of all DO information on those sub-segments without site-specific criteria in the review of the 2006 303(d) list. As mentioned, EPA guidance recommends that "a greater than 10% exceedance" be used for determining whether waters are meeting their designated use for aquatic life use support. The allowed percent exceedance is meant to account for reasonable amount of natural occurring variability. Dissolved oxygen information was reassessed using

			an Exact Binomial Test for Minimum Dissolved Oxygen resulting in a finding of non-support. See response to Attachment A below.
Ouachita (11)			
080601 Bayou D'Arbonne-Headwaters to Lake Claiborne	Organic enrichment/low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
080605 Bayou D'Arbonne-From Bayou D'Arbonne Lake to Ouachita River (Scenic)	Organic enrichment/low DO		
080608 Corney Lake	Organic enrichment/low DO		
080802 Cheniere Brake Lake	Organic enrichment/low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
080908 Lake Lafourche	Organic enrichment/low DO		
081301 Little River-Archie Dam to Ouachita River	Organic enrichment/low DO		
081502 Chatham Lake in Chatham, Louisiana	Organic enrichment/low DO		
081601 Little River-Confluence of Castor Creek and Dugdemona River to junction with Bear Creek (Scenic) east of Georgetown, Louisiana	Organic enrichment/low DO		
081602 Little River-From Bear Creek to Catahoula Lake (Scenic)	Organic enrichment/low DO		

081610 Old River Catahoula Lake to Little River	Organic enrichment/ low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
081611 Bayou Funny Louis- Headwaters to Little River	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
Pearl (03)			
090105 Pearl River Navigation Canal- From Pools Bluff to Lock No. 3	Organic enrichment/ low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
090204 Pearl River Navigation Canal below Lock No. 3	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
090207 Middle River and West Middle River-From West Pearl River to Little Lake	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
Pontchartrain (12)			
040402 Amite River Diversion Canal	Nutrients Organic enrichment/ low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
040503 Natalbany River-Headwaters to Tickfaw River	Phosphorus Organic enrichment/ low DO		
040504 Yellow Water River-Origin to Pontchatoula Creek	Phosphorus Organic enrichment/ low DO		
040702 Tangipahoa River-From I-12 to Lake Pontchartrain	Ammonia Nutrients Organic enrichment/ low DO		
040802 Lower Tchefuncta River- From the Bogue	Organic enrichment/ low DO		

Falaya River down La Hwy 22 excluding any tributaries from the Bogue Falaya River south to La. Hwy. 22 (Scenic)		See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
041901 Mississippi River Gulf Outlet-Intracoastal Waterway to Breton Sound (mile 30)	Organic enrichment/low DO		
042209 Breton Sound near LLOG well head	Organic enrichment/low DO	This subsegment consists of open bays and coastal waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Aside from data considerations it is very unlikely that this area is impacted by low DO. See Attachment A:	EPA conducted a reassessment of all DO information on those sub-segments without site-specific criteria in the review of the 2006 303(d) list. As mentioned, EPA guidance recommends that “a greater than 10% exceedance” be used for determining whether waters are meeting their designated use for aquatic life use support. The allowed percent exceedance is meant to account for reasonable amount of natural occurring variability. Dissolved oxygen data were reassessed using an Exact Binomial Test for Minimum Dissolved Oxygen resulting in a finding of non-support.
Red (17)			
100304 Twelve Mile Bayou –Origin to Red River	Organic enrichment/low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
100404 Cypress Bayou Reservoir	Organic enrichment/low DO		
100405 Black Bayou (including Black Bayou Reservoir)	Organic enrichment/low DO		
100406 Flat River-Headwaters to Loggy Bayou	Organic enrichment/low DO Nutrients		

100501 Bayou Dorcheat-Arkansas State Line to Lake Bistineau (Scenic)	Organic enrichment/ low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
100601 Bayou Pierre-Headwaters to Sawing Lake	Organic enrichment/ low DO Nutrients		
100602 Boggy Bayou-Headwaters to Wallace Lake at U.S. Hwy 171	Organic enrichment/ low DO Nutrients		
100702 Black Lake Bayou-Webster-Bienville Parish Line to Black Lake (Scenic)	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
100703 Black Lake and Clear Lake	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
100803 Saline Bayou-from Saline Lake to Red River	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
101301 Rigolette Bayou-Headwaters to Red River	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
101302 Iatt Lake	Organic enrichment/ low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
101506 Big Creek-Headwaters to Saline Lake	Organic enrichment/ low DO	This was a category 2 listing in LDEQ's 2006 IR, listing should be Group 4 of EPA's decision document. See Attachment A:	Although the water was listed in Category 2 by LDEQ, the waterbody was exceeding its dissolved oxygen criterion for waterbodies without site-specific criteria and could be grouped in either portion of the decision document. See Response to Attachment A below.
101604 Lake Concordia	Organic enrichment/ low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
Sabine (01)			
110401 Bayou Toro-Headwaters to La. Hwy. 473	Organic enrichment/ low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below

Terrebonne (17)			
120105 Chamberlin Canal	Nutrients Organic enrichment/ low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
120106 Bayou Plaquemine-Plaquemine Lock to Intracoastal Waterway Louisiana	Nutrients Organic enrichment/ low DO		
120107 Upper Grand River and Lower Flat River-Headwaters to Intracoastal Waterway	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
120110 Bayou Cholpi-Headwaters to Intracoastal Waterway	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
120204 Lake Verret and Grassy Lake	Nutrients Organic enrichment/ low DO		
120304 Intracoastal Waterway Houma to LaRose	Nutrients Organic enrichment/ low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
120401 Bayou Penchant-Bayou Chene to Lake Penchant	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
120403 Intracoastal Waterway-Bayou Boeuf Locks to boundary between segments 1204 and 1203, at Houma (includes segments of Bayous Boeuf, Black and Chene)	Organic enrichment/ low DO		

120404 Lake Penchant	Organic enrichment/ low DO	See Attachment A:	See response to Attachment A below
120405 Lake Hache, Lake Theriot	Nutrients Organic enrichment/ low DO		
120604 Bayou Blue-Intracoastal Waterway to boundary between segments 1206 and 1207	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
120709 Bayou Petit Caillou-From Houma Navigation Canal to Terrebonne Bay at Tambour Bay, Louisiana	Organic enrichment/ low DO		

3. Data support a conclusion that Water Quality Standards are exceeded for the Category 4c waterbodies listed.

Sub-segment Description	Parameter	LDEQ Response to EPA's Decision Document	EPA Response to Comments
Barataria (03)			
020302 Bayou Gauche	Nutrients Organic enrichment/ low DO	LDEQ recommends changing this subsegment from category 4c to category 2. Initial TMDL investigation by LDEQ modelers found that the subsegment has no man-made or man-induced sources of pollutants and recommended development of a UAA instead of a TMDL. Therefore, Louisiana asks that this impairment be changed to category 2 until such time as a UAA or site-specific criteria can be developed. See attachment B.	EPA conducted a reassessment of all DO information on those sub-segments without site-specific criteria in the review of the 2006 303(d) list. As mentioned, EPA guidance recommends that "a greater than 10% exceedance" be used for determining whether waters are meeting their designated use for aquatic life use support. The allowed percent exceedance is meant to account for reasonable amount of natural occurring variability. Dissolved oxygen information was reassessed using an Exact Binomial Test for Minimum Dissolved Oxygen resulting in a finding of non-support. The current criterion for this segment must be applied until such a time as that criterion is modified through a UAA and a

			standards change is approved by EPA. Therefore, the waterbody should be listed in Category 5.
020902 Little Lake (Estuarine)	Total Fecal Coliform	Based on maps, aerial photography and regional field staff input, this subsegment is devoid of roads and likely devoid of homes or camps. There are no significant man-made or man-induced sources of fecal coliform pollutants in this subsegment. See attachment B.	Although Louisiana Water Quality Standards do contain a natural conditions provision, no framework or assessment methodology exists to implement this narrative. EPA determined that a standards revision for waterbodies where the impairment is thought to be natural is needed for delisting waterbodies thought to be impaired due to natural conditions.” Therefore, EPA re-listed these waterbody pollutant-combinations to the 2006 303(d) list.
Calcasieu (4)			
030501 Whiskey Chitto Creek-Headwaters to southern boundary of Fort Polk Military Reservation	Total Fecal Coliform	See attachment B.	See response to Attachment B below
030802 Hickory Branch-Headwaters to West Fork Calcasieu River	Total Fecal Coliform	See attachment B.	See response to Attachment B below
030806 Houston River-From junction with Bear Head Creek at Parish Road to West Fork Calcasieu River	pH, low	This is a heavily wooded, naturally low pH water body. There are no man-made or man-induced sources of low pH in this subsegment. Site-specific pH criteria are required for this subsegment. See attachment B.	For the purpose of identifying water quality limited segments, i.e., any segment where it is known that water quality standards, and/or is not expected to meet applicable water quality standards, even after the application of the technology-based effluent limitations (See 40 CFR § 130.2(j), the term water quality standard applicable to such waters refers to those water quality standards established under § 303 of the Clean Water Act, including numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and waterbody uses. See 40 CFR § 130.7(a)(3). Thus, regarding the decision for re-listing the referenced waterbody, EPA’s decision was based on current water quality standards as required by Federal Regulation.
030807 Bear Head Creek-Headwaters to junction with Houston River at Parish Road	pH, low	This is a wooded, naturally low pH water body. There are no man-made or man-induced sources of low pH in this subsegment. Site-	For the purpose of identifying water quality limited segments, i.e., any segment where it is known that water quality standards, and/or is not expected to meet applicable

		specific pH criteria are required for this subsegment. See attachment B.	water quality standards, even after the application of the technology-based effluent limitations (See 40 CFR § 130.2(j), the term water quality standard applicable to such waters refers to those water quality standards established under § 303 of the Clean Water Act, including numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and waterbody uses. See 40 CFR § 130.7(a)(3). Thus, regarding the decision for re-listing the referenced waterbody, EPA's decision was based on current water quality standards as required by Federal Regulation.
Ouachita (11)			
080601 Bayou D'Arbonne-Headwaters to Lake Clairborne	Color	These are all heavily wooded, naturally low-pH, low-DO, high TDS and high color water bodies. There are no significant man-made or man-induced sources of low pH, low DO, high color, or high TDS in these subsegments. Site-specific criteria are required for these subsegments. See attachment B.	For the purpose of identifying water quality limited segments, i.e., any segment where it is known that water quality standards, and/or is not expected to meet applicable water quality standards, even after the application of the technology-based effluent limitations (See 40 CFR § 130.2(j), the term water quality standard applicable to such waters refers to those water quality standards established under § 303 of the Clean Water Act, including numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and waterbody uses. See 40 CFR § 130.7(a)(3). Thus, regarding the decision for re-listing the referenced waterbody, EPA's decision was based on current water quality standards as required by Federal Regulation.
080601 Bayou D'Arbonne-Headwaters to Lake Claiborne	pH, low		
080606 Cypress Creek Headwaters to Bayou D'Arbonne (includes Colvin Creek)	Sulfates		
080606 Cypress Creek-Headwaters to Bayou D'Arbonne (includes Colvin Creek)	Total Dissolved Solids		
080607 Corney Bayou-From Arkansas State Line to Corney Creek (Scenic)	pH, low		
080608 Corney Lake	pH, low		
080801 Cheniere Creek	Organic enrichment/low DO		
080801 Cheniere Creek	pH, low		

081503 Beaucoup Creek-Headwaters to Castor Creek	pH, low	This is heavily wooded, naturally low-pH water body and an LDEQ reference stream. There are no significant man-made or man-induced sources of low pH, low DO or high color in these subsegments. Site-specific criteria are required for this subsegment. See attachment B.	For the purpose of identifying water quality limited segments, i.e., any segment where it is known that water quality standards, and/or is not expected to meet applicable water quality standards, even after the application of the technology-based effluent limitations (<u>See</u> 40 CFR § 130.2(j), the term water quality standard applicable to such waters refers to those water quality standards established under § 303 of the Clean Water Act, including numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and waterbody uses. <u>See</u> 40 CFR § 130.7(a)(3). Thus, regarding the decision for re-listing the referenced waterbody, EPA’s decision was based on current water quality standards as required by Federal Regulation.
081504 Flat Creek-Headwaters to Castor Creek	Total Dissolved Solids	This is heavily wooded water body. There are no significant man-made or man-induced sources of TDS. Site-specific criteria are required for this subsegment. See attachment B.	For the purpose of identifying water quality limited segments, i.e., any segment where it is known that water quality standards, and/or is not expected to meet applicable water quality standards, even after the application of the technology-based effluent limitations (<u>See</u> 40 CFR § 130.2(j), the term water quality standard applicable to such waters refers to those water quality standards established under § 303 of the Clean Water Act, including numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and waterbody uses. <u>See</u> 40 CFR § 130.7(a)(3). Thus, regarding the decision for re-listing the referenced waterbody, EPA’s decision was based on current water quality standards as required by Federal Regulation.
Pearl (01)			
090107 Pearl River-From Pearl River Navigation Canal to Holmes Bayou	Chloride	During preliminary discussions between LDEQ and EPA, EPA agreed to keep this subsegment in category 4c for sulfates due to “no new data.” If there was no new data for sulfates, from where did EPA get chlorides data to change this listing from 4c to 5? See attachment B.	Comment noted, the waterbody will be removed from Category 5 of the 2006 Integrated Report.
Red (09)			

100301 Black Bayou-Texas State Line to La. Hwy. 1 at Bayou Lake	Organic enrichment/ low DO	See attachment B.	See response to Attachment B below
100302 Black Bayou Lake-From La. Hwy. 1 to spillway	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
100308 Paw Paw Bayou and Tributaries-Texas State Line to Cross Lake	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
100309 Cross Bayou-Texas State Line to Cross Lake	Organic enrichment/ low DO		
100803 Saline Bayou-from Saline Lake to Red River	Organic enrichment/ low DO	This water body was listed twice by EPA. It should properly be listed in Group 2 because it is considered fully supported by LDEQ. See attachment A.	Comment noted, the correction will be made and the redundancy will be removed.
101501 Big Saline Bayou-Catahoula Lake to Saline Lake	Organic enrichment/ low DO	See attachment B.	See response to Attachment B below
100308 Paw Paw Bayou and Tributaries-Texas State Line to Cross Lake	Color	These are all heavily wooded, naturally low-pH and high color water bodies. There are no significant man-made or man-induced sources of low pH, or high color in these subsegments. Site-specific criteria are required for these subsegments. See attachment B.	For the purpose of identifying water quality limited segments, i.e., any segment where it is known that water quality standards, and/or is not expected to meet applicable water quality standards, even after the application of the technology-based effluent limitations (<u>See</u> 40 CFR § 130.2(j), the term water quality standard applicable to such waters refers to those water quality standards established under § 303 of the Clean Water Act, including numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and waterbody uses. <u>See</u> 40 CFR § 130.7(a)(3). Thus, regarding the decision for re-listing the referenced waterbody, EPA's decision was based on current water quality standards as required by Federal Regulation.
101103 Bayou Kisatchie-Entrance into Kisatchie National Forest to Old River (Scenic)	pH, low		
101506 Big Creek-Headwaters to Saline Lake	pH, low		
Terrebonne (07)			
120204 Lake Verret and Grassy Lake	Turbidity	These are shallow coastal marsh lakes subject to wind which may stir up the lake bottoms. Therefore, it is	For the purpose of identifying water quality limited segments, i.e., any segment where it is known that water quality standards, and/or

		<p>very unlikely they can meet the stringent lake criteria of 25 NTU. In addition, these lakes are currently being used by LDEQ as reference water bodies for our DO criteria development project. There are no significant sources of man-made or man-induced pollutants, making category 4c the most appropriate listing for this parameter. See attachment B.</p>	<p>is not expected to meet applicable water quality standards, even after the application of the technology-based effluent limitations (<u>See</u> 40 CFR § 130.2(j), the term water quality standard applicable to such waters refers to those water quality standards established under § 303 of the Clean Water Act, including numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and waterbody uses. <u>See</u> 40 CFR § 130.7(a)(3). Thus, regarding the decision for re-listing the referenced waterbody, EPA’s decision was based on current water quality standards as required by Federal Regulation.</p>
120401 Bayou Penchant-Bayou Chene to Lake Penchant	Turbidity	<p>This was listed in 2002 as category 4c based on the reasoning elaborated on in LDEQ’s attachment B. It was changed to category 3 as a compromise with EPA until new data could be collected or new criteria could be set. In addition, the subsegment, while designated as a scenic stream, is not a typical scenic stream in the sense of being a clear, flowing stream. Rather, it is a coastal, marshy bayou where it is very unlikely it can meet the stringent scenic stream turbidity criteria of 25 NTU. Site-specific turbidity criteria are required for this subsegment. See attachment B.</p>	<p>For the purpose of identifying water quality limited segments, i.e., any segment where it is known that water quality standards, and/or is not expected to meet applicable water quality standards, even after the application of the technology-based effluent limitations (<u>See</u> 40 CFR § 130.2(j), the term water quality standard applicable to such waters refers to those water quality standards established under § 303 of the Clean Water Act, including numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and waterbody uses. <u>See</u> 40 CFR § 130.7(a)(3). Thus, regarding the decision for re-listing the referenced waterbody, EPA’s decision was based on current water quality standards as required by Federal Regulation.</p>
120405 Lake Hache, Lake Theriot	Turbidity	<p>These are shallow coastal marsh lakes subject to wind, which may stir up the lake bottoms. Therefore, it is very unlikely they can meet the stringent lake criteria of 25 NTU. There are no significant sources of man-made or man-induced pollutants, making category 4c the most appropriate listing for this parameter. See attachment B.</p>	<p>For the purpose of identifying water quality limited segments, i.e., any segment where it is known that water quality standards, and/or is not expected to meet applicable water quality standards, even after the application of the technology-based effluent limitations (<u>See</u> 40 CFR § 130.2(j), the term water quality standard applicable to such waters refers to those water quality standards established under § 303 of the Clean Water Act, including numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and waterbody uses. <u>See</u> 40 CFR</p>

			§ 130.7(a)(3). Thus, regarding the decision for re-listing the referenced waterbody, EPA’s decision was based on current water quality standards as required by Federal Regulation.
120605 Bayou Pointe au Chien-Source to boundary between 1206 and 1207	Chloride	This subsegment is a coastal marsh bayou located approximately 15 miles from Terrebonne Bay. The lower portion of the watershed, which is where LDEQ’s sample point is located, is very close to an area experiencing extensive marsh loss due to coastal erosion. Therefore, it is likely the high chloride, sulfate, and TDS readings are a result of coastal marsh loss, not man-made or man-induced alterations. See attachment B.	For the purpose of identifying water quality limited segments, i.e., any segment where it is known that water quality standards, and/or is not expected to meet applicable water quality standards, even after the application of the technology-based effluent limitations (<u>See</u> 40 CFR § 130.2(j), the term water quality standard applicable to such waters refers to those water quality standards established under § 303 of the Clean Water Act, including numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and waterbody uses. <u>See</u> 40 CFR § 130.7(a)(3). Thus, regarding the decision for re-listing the referenced waterbody, EPA’s decision was based on current water quality standards as required by Federal Regulation.
120605 Bayou Pointe au Chien-Source to boundary between 1206 and 1207	Sulfates		
120605 Bayou Pointe au Chien-Source to boundary between 1206 and 1207	Total Dissolved Solids		
120605 Bayou Pointe au Chien-Source to boundary between 1206 and 1207	Turbidity	This water body impairment combination was not listed by LDEQ in the 2006 Integrated Report; therefore, it could not have been listed as category 4c. LDEQ delisted this subsegment for the 2004 Integrated Report with the following statement: “Turbidity data for this water body supports most stringent turbidity criterion of 25 NTU for scenic streams. Therefore, water body is fully supporting turbidity criterion.” This assessment was accepted by EPA at this time because the impairment was not added to the 2002 or 2004 303(d) lists by EPA. This addition should be removed by EPA.	Comment noted, the waterbody pollutant combination will be removed from Category 5 of the 2006 303(d) List

4. Data support a conclusion that Water Quality Standards are exceeded for the Category 2 waterbodies listed.

Sub-segment Description	Parameter	LDEQ Response to EPA's Decision Document	EPA Response to Comments
Barataria (14)			
020201 Bayou Des Allemands Lac Des Allemands to U.S. Hwy 90 (Scenic)	Turbidity	These two subsegments were listed in 2002 as category 4c based on the reasoning elaborated on in LDEQ's response to group 3 of EPA's decision document. They were changed to category 3, then category 2, as a compromise with EPA until new data could be collected or new criteria could be set. In addition, the subsegments, while designated as a scenic stream, are not a typical scenic stream in the sense of being a clear, flowing stream. Rather, they are a coastal, marshy bayou where it is very unlikely it can meet the stringent scenic stream turbidity criteria of 25 NTU. Site-specific turbidity criteria are required for these subsegments.	During the 2002 and 2004 § 303(d) reporting cycle, the State for purposes of evaluating waters for the Integrated Report placed these waters in Category 3, indicating that "At this time the [LDEQ] does not have sufficient information to confirm an impairment." Therefore, EPA concurred with the State's decision to place these waters in Category 3. See Decision Document For Louisiana's 2002 and 2004 §303(d) List available at www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6wq/tmdl.htm . However, submission of the State's 2006 Integrated Report, EPA noted that the State moved these waters from Category 3, i.e., Insufficient Data and/or Information, to Category 2. Based on EPA's evaluation of current data and applicable State water quality standards, these waters met the definition of a Water Quality Limited Segment and thus were re-listed as required per 40 CFR § 130.7(a) and (b).
020301 Bayou Des Allemands U.S. Hwy 90 to Lake Salvador (Scenic)	Turbidity		
020302 Bayou Gauche	Chloride	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
020302 Bayou Gauche	Sulfates	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
020302 Bayou Gauche	Total Dissolved Solids	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
020303 Lake Cataouatche and Tributaries	Chloride	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
020303 Lake Cataouatche and Tributaries	Total Dissolved Solids	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
020304 Lake	Chloride	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C

Salvador			below.
020304 Lake Salvador	Sulfates	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
020304 Lake Salvador	Total Dissolved Solids	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
020501 St. Charles Parish Canals and Bayous in Segment 0205	Chloride	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
020501 St. Charles Parish Canals and Bayous in Segment 0205	Sulfates	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
020501 St. Charles Parish Canals and Bayous in Segment 0205	Total Dissolved Solids	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
020701 Bayou Segnette-origin to Bayou Villars	Sulfates	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
Calcasieu (01)			
030601 Barnes Creek-Headwaters to entrance of Little Barnes Creek	Total Dissolved Solids	This water body impairment has been listed for TDS due to natural conditions or source unknown, category 4c, 2, or 3, since 2000. In 1998 the entire subsegment was reported as insufficient data and in 1996 it was fully supported. See attachment B.	During the 2002 and 2004 § 303(d) reporting cycle, the State for purposes of evaluating waters for the Integrated Report placed these waters in Category 3, indicating that “At this time the [LDEQ] does not have sufficient information to confirm an impairment.” Therefore, EPA concurred with the State’s decision to place these waters in Category 3. See Decision Document For Louisiana’s 2002 and 2004 §303(d) List available at www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6wq/tmdl.htm . However, submission of the State’s 2006 Integrated Report, EPA noted that the State moved these waters from Category 3, i.e., Insufficient Data and/or Information, to Category 2. Based on EPA’s evaluation of current data and applicable State water quality standards, these waters met the definition of a Water Quality Limited Segment and thus were re-

			listed as required per 40 CFR § 130.7(a) and (b).
Pontchartrain (02)			
040901 Bayou Lacombe-Headwaters to U.S. Hwy. 190 (Scenic)	Chloride	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
040903 Bayou Cane-Headwaters to U.S. Hwy. 190 (Scenic)	Chloride	See attachment C.	
Ouachita (03)			
080906 Turkey Creek-From Turkey Creek Cutoff to Turkey Creek Lake	Chloride	This water body has been listed for chloride and TDS due to natural conditions or source unknown, category 4c, 2, or 3, since 2000. In 1998 the entire subsegment was reported as insufficient data and in 1996 it was fully supported. Category 2 is currently used as a compromise with EPA; however, category 4c is more appropriate. See attachment B.	During the 2002 and 2004 § 303(d) reporting cycle, the State for purposes of evaluating waters for the Integrated Report placed these waters in Category 3, indicating that “At this time the [LDEQ] does not have sufficient information to confirm an impairment.” Therefore, EPA concurred with the State’s decision to place these waters in Category 3. See Decision Document For Louisiana’s 2002 and 2004 §303(d) List available at www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6wq/tmdl.htm . However, submission of the State’s 2006 Integrated Report, EPA noted that the State moved these waters from Category 3, i.e., Insufficient Data and/or Information, to Category 2. Based on EPA’s evaluation of current data and applicable State water quality standards, these waters met the definition of a Water Quality Limited Segment and thus were re-listed as required per 40 CFR § 130.7(a) and (b).
080906 Turkey Creek-From Turkey Creek Cutoff to Turkey Creek Lake	Total Dissolved Solids	This water body has been listed for chloride and TDS due to natural conditions or source unknown, category 4c, 2, or 3, since 2000 (IR categories since 2002). In 1998 the entire subsegment was reported as insufficient data and in 1996 it was fully supported. Category 2 is currently used as a compromise with EPA; however, category 4c is more appropriate. See	During the 2002 and 2004 § 303(d) reporting cycle, the State for purposes of evaluating waters for the Integrated Report placed these waters in Category 3, indicating that “At this time the [LDEQ] does not have sufficient information to confirm an impairment.” Therefore, EPA concurred with the State’s decision to place these waters in Category 3. See Decision Document For Louisiana’s 2002 and 2004 §303(d) List available at

		attachment B.	www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6wq/tmdl.htm . However, submission of the State's 2006 Integrated Report, EPA noted that the State moved these waters from Category 3, i.e., Insufficient Data and/or Information, to Category 2. Based on EPA's evaluation of current data and applicable State water quality standards, these waters met the definition of a Water Quality Limited Segment and thus were re-listed as required per 40 CFR § 130.7(a) and (b).
081605 Little River-From Catahoula Lake to dam at Archie	Organic Enrichment/low DO	From 2002 through 2006 this impairment was listed as due to natural conditions and/or hydrologic modifications due to the presence of control structures creating impoundments on the river. In 2004 and 2002 LDEQ reported it as category 5 due to the control structures; however, in 2006 it was changed to category 2 due to natural conditions and due to uncertainty as to the true source of low DO in the water body. Until the source of low DO has been determined LDEQ believes category 2 is the best option.	For the purpose of identifying water quality limited segments, i.e., any segment where it is known that water quality standards, and/or is not expected to meet applicable water quality standards, even after the application of the technology-based effluent limitations (See 40 CFR § 130.2(j), the term water quality standard applicable to such waters refers to those water quality standards established under § 303 of the Clean Water Act, including numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and waterbody uses. See 40 CFR § 130.7(a)(3). Thus, regarding the decision for re-listing the referenced waterbody, EPA's decision was based on current water quality standards as required by Federal Regulation.
Red (04)			
100101 Red River-Arkansas State Line to Alexandria (La. Hwy. 165)	Sulfates	This water body has been listed for sulfates due to natural conditions, source unknown, or upstream sources using category 4c, 2, or 3, since 1998 (IR categories since 2002). In 1996 it was fully supported. Although not fully investigated there have been reports of a natural source of high sulfate levels somewhere in Texas or Oklahoma. LDEQ's "upstream sources" alludes to this. Category 2 is currently used as a compromise with EPA; however, category 4c is	During the 2002 and 2004 § 303(d) reporting cycle, the State for purposes of evaluating waters for the Integrated Report placed these waters in Category 3, indicating that "At this time the [LDEQ] does not have sufficient information to confirm an impairment." Therefore, EPA concurred with the State's decision to place these waters in Category 3. See Decision Document For Louisiana's 2002 and 2004 §303(d) List available at www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6wq/tmdl.htm . However, submission of the State's 2006 Integrated Report, EPA noted that the State moved these waters from Category 3, i.e.,

		more appropriate. See attachment B.	Insufficient Data and/or Information, to Category 2. Based on EPA's evaluation of current data and applicable State water quality standards, these waters met the definition of a Water Quality Limited Segment and thus were re-listed as required per 40 CFR § 130.7(a) and (b).
100308 Paw Paw Bayou and Tributaries-Texas State Line to Cross Lake	Chloride	This water body was listed for chloride, sulfate, and/or TDS due to upstream sources using category 2 or 3 in 2004 and 2006. The source is presumed to be natural and located in Texas. The water body was listed as impaired for these parameters in 1996 but reported as insufficient data for all assessments from 1998-2002. Category 2 is currently used as a compromise with EPA; however, category 4c is more appropriate. See attachment B.	During the 2002 and 2004 § 303(d) reporting cycle, the State for purposes of evaluating waters for the Integrated Report placed these waters in Category 3, indicating that "At this time the [LDEQ] does not have sufficient information to confirm an impairment." Therefore, EPA concurred with the State's decision to place these waters in Category 3. See Decision Document For Louisiana's 2002 and 2004 §303(d) List available at www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6wq/tmdl.htm . However, submission of the State's 2006 Integrated Report, EPA noted that the State moved these waters from Category 3, i.e., Insufficient Data and/or Information, to Category 2. Based on EPA's evaluation of current data and applicable State water quality standards, these waters met the definition of a Water Quality Limited Segment and thus were re-listed as required per 40 CFR § 130.7(a) and (b).
100308 Paw Paw Bayou and Tributaries-Texas State Line to Cross Lake	Sulfates	This water body was listed for chloride, sulfate, and/or TDS due to upstream sources using category 2 or 3 in 2004 and 2006. The source is presumed to be natural and located in Texas. The water body was listed as impaired for these parameters in 1996 but reported as insufficient data for all assessments from 1998-2002. Category 2 is currently used as a compromise with EPA; however, category 4c is more appropriate.	During the 2002 and 2004 § 303(d) reporting cycle, the State for purposes of evaluating waters for the Integrated Report placed these waters in Category 3, indicating that "At this time the [LDEQ] does not have sufficient information to confirm an impairment." Therefore, EPA concurred with the State's decision to place these waters in Category 3. See Decision Document For Louisiana's 2002 and 2004 §303(d) List available at www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6wq/tmdl.htm . However, submission of the State's 2006 Integrated Report,

		See attachment B.	EPA noted that the State moved these waters from Category 3, i.e., Insufficient Data and/or Information, to Category 2. Based on EPA's evaluation of current data and applicable State water quality standards, these waters met the definition of a Water Quality Limited Segment and thus were re-listed as required per 40 CFR § 130.7(a) and (b).
100308 Paw Paw Bayou and Tributaries-Texas State Line to Cross Lake	Total Dissolved Solids	This water body was listed for chloride, sulfate, and/or TDS due to upstream sources using category 2 or 3 in 2004 and 2006. The source is presumed to be natural and located in Texas. The water body was listed as impaired for these parameters in 1996 but reported as insufficient data for all assessments from 1998-2002. Category 2 is currently used as a compromise with EPA; however, category 4c is more appropriate. See attachment B.	During the 2002 and 2004 § 303(d) reporting cycle, the State for purposes of evaluating waters for the Integrated Report placed these waters in Category 3, indicating that "At this time the [LDEQ] does not have sufficient information to confirm an impairment." Therefore, EPA concurred with the State's decision to place these waters in Category 3. See Decision Document For Louisiana's 2002 and 2004 §303(d) List available at www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6wq/tmdl.htm . However, submission of the State's 2006 Integrated Report, EPA noted that the State moved these waters from Category 3, i.e., Insufficient Data and/or Information, to Category 2. Based on EPA's evaluation of current data and applicable State water quality standards, these waters met the definition of a Water Quality Limited Segment and thus were re-listed as required per 40 CFR § 130.7(a) and (b).
Terrebonne (05)			
120109 Intracoastal Waterway-Morgan City to Port Allen Route-Port Allen Locks to Bayou Sorrel Locks	Sulfates	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
120505 Bayou Du Large-from Houma to Marmande Canal	Chloride	See attachment C.	
120505 Bayou Du Large-from Houma to Marmande Canal	Total Dissolved Solids	See attachment C.	

120505 Bayou Du Large-from Houma to Marmande Canal	Sulfates	See attachment C.	See Response to Attachment C below.
120604 Bayou Blue-Intracoastal Waterway to boundary between segments 1206 and 1207	Total Dissolved Solids	See attachment C.	

Attachment A:

Response to EPA Decision Document regarding overruling of LDEQ’s dissolved oxygen assessments for the referenced water bodies.

LDEQ disagrees with EPA's decision to add these water body impairments to Louisiana's 2006 §303(d) list. At the time these assessments were originally developed LDEQ used and interpreted State water quality criteria to determine these water bodies were not impaired by one or more of the following: organic enrichment/low DO, nutrients, total phosphorus, nitrogen, ammonia. LDEQ has recently revised Louisiana's water quality assessment protocols with regards to dissolved oxygen and will reevaluate all water bodies for which new water quality data is available for the 2008 Integrated Report. This new assessment protocol was developed in order to agree with EPA guidance; therefore, there should be no further disagreement regarding dissolved oxygen assessment protocols. TMDLs for many of these subsegments are not due until 2011, 2012, or after, therefore, it is possible these impairments will be delisted prior to TMDL development.

EPA’s Response

EPA is encouraged by LDEQ’s decision to revise the agency’s dissolved oxygen assessment methodology to determine use support of state waterbodies without site specific criteria. Although it is likely in the next reporting cycle LDEQ’s revised methodology will result in less disagreement between EPA’s and LDEQ assessment of dissolved oxygen data for waterbodies without site-specific criteria, waterbody pollutant combinations should not be delisted on the basis of future action or “possible delistings before TMDL development”. The current available dissolved oxygen data show these waters are exceeding the applicable dissolved oxygen criteria and therefore should be reported in Category 5 of the 2006 integrated report.

Attachement B:

LDEQ Response to EPA Decision Document regarding Integrated Report Category 4c listings.

Original Integrated Report guidance stated that, “Assessment Units should be listed in this subcategory [4c] if the impairment is *not caused by a pollutant.*” Current 2008 EPA guidance further expands on this concept, stating Category 4c may be used when “states

demonstrate that the failure to meet an applicable water quality standard is *not caused by a pollutant*, but instead is caused by other types of pollution.” The guidance further goes on to clarify that, “Pollution, as defined by the CWA is the “the *man-made or man-induced alteration* of the chemical, physical, biological, and radiological integrity of water (Section 502(19).” (emphasis added). LDEQ therefore established these category 4c listings based on EPA’s own guidance for Integrated Report categories. Since the inception of the Integrated Report Category process, LDEQ and many other states have interpreted this guidance to mean water quality criteria impairments resulting from natural conditions, i.e. *not* man-made or man-induced alterations. In each of the water body impairment cases listed by EPA in this portion of its decision document, LDEQ field staff most familiar with the water bodies have determined in their best professional judgment that there are no significant anthropogenic sources of impairment, again, **no man-made or man-induced alterations**, in these watersheds for these parameters.

EPA Region 6 personnel, almost certainly having never studied or even seen these watersheds, have no grounds for stating that these criteria impairments are caused by man-made or man-induced alterations. Therefore, EPA has no grounds for overruling LDEQ’s decision to list these as Category 4c. EPA’s decision to list these water body impairment combinations as Category 5 is arbitrary and capricious, as opposed to LDEQ’s determination for Category 4c, which was based on the best professional judgment of regional field staff who collected samples from these water bodies and are most familiar with the watersheds. LDEQ recognizes that additional information should be gathered in support of our position that these impairments are not due to man-made or man-induced alterations. Therefore, as recommended in the 2008 Integrated Report guidance, LDEQ will make every effort to “schedule these segments for monitoring to confirm that there continues to be no pollutant associated with the failure to meet the water quality standard and to support water quality management actions necessary to address the cause(s) of the impairment.” These efforts may take the form of UAA or other site-specific criteria determinations, in particular the planned ecoregion approach to setting dissolved oxygen criteria. Prior to the collection of this additional monitoring data, and as repeatedly recommended by EPA guidance, LDEQ will continue to list these water body impairment combinations as Category 4c. LDEQ will not develop TMDLs for these unless and until such time as Louisiana determines there is a valid man-made or man-induced target which the TMDL can address.

EPA’s Response

According to EPA’s 2008 Integrated Reporting Guidance “ultimately, the State’s water quality Standards are the basis for determining whether a waterbody is impaired for a pollutant and included on the State’s Section 303(d) List”.

Louisiana’s Water Quality Standards (See LAC 33, Part IX, Chapter 11) make reference to natural conditions, i.e., natural background levels, for both General Criteria (See LAC 33, Part IX, Chapter 11, §1113.B) and Numeric Criteria (See LAC 33, Part IX, Chapter 11, §1113.C) in the context of establishing site-specific water quality criteria. Specifically, general and numerical water quality criteria may be modified to take into account site-specific, local conditions. Louisiana’s water quality standards provisions do not allow for development and application of

criteria based on natural background levels outside of the site-specific context. In the case of the Louisiana 2006 Section 303(d) List, in the absence of either a natural background provision supporting criteria that may be set equal to a less stringent natural background level or site-specific criteria based on natural background levels, the otherwise applicable criteria is the basis for determining whether a waterbody is impaired. See 40 CFR § 130.7(b)(3). The data show these waterbodies to be exceeding the applicable criteria and should therefore be listed in Category 5 of the 2006 Section 303(d) List.

Attachment C:

Addition of chlorides, sulfates and total dissolved solids on EPA's 2006 Decision Document

These listings for chlorides, sulfates, and/or total dissolved solids were first listed by LDEQ in 2002 as category 4c based on then current drought conditions and on the reasoning elaborated upon in Attachment A of LDEQ's response. These were changed to category 3 as a compromise, *suggested by EPA*, until new data could be collected or new criteria could be set. These were changed by LDEQ to category 2 in subsequent Integrated Reports based on a closer reading of the category definitions, however, the intent of category 2 and 3 are essentially the same. At this time, it is possible that coastal marsh losses are also contributing to the increase in chlorides, sulfates and total dissolved solids in this entire region. Based on the best professional judgment of LDEQ regional field staff there are no likely man-made or man-induced sources of chloride, sulfate or total dissolved solids in this region. Site-specific criteria may be required for these subsegments.

EPA Response

During the 2002 and 2004 § 303(d) reporting cycle, the State for purposes of evaluating waters for the Integrated Report placed these waters in Category 3 indicating that "At this time the [LDEQ] does not have sufficient information to confirm an impairment." Therefore, EPA concurred with the State's decision to place these waters in Category 3. See Decision Document For Louisiana's 2002 and 2004 §303(d) List available at www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6wg/tmdl.htm. New Total Dissolved Solids, Chloride and Sulfates data has since been collected for the 2006 Integrated Reporting Cycle. Based on EPA's evaluation of current data and applicable State water quality standards, these waters met the definition of a Water Quality Limited Segment and thus were re-listed as required per 40 CFR § 130.7(a) and (b).

Gulf Restoration Network. Mr. Matt Rota, Water Resource Program Director

Near shore waters should be added to the 303(d) list. For decades, hypoxia, or the Dead Zone has been occurring in the Gulf of Mexico. This well documented area is an area with extremely low dissolved oxygen levels, which violate Louisiana's water quality standards. While we acknowledge that LDEQ's jurisdiction reaches only to three miles off the coast, the Dead Zone and accompanying low oxygen levels do reach the shores of

Louisiana. Given the scientific evidence of these extremely low oxygen levels, we request that EPA add the near-shore waters of Louisiana (segments 010901, 021102, 031201, 061201, 070601, 110701, and 120606) to the 303(d) list for dissolved oxygen, as well as nitrogen and phosphorus (the causes of the low dissolved oxygen). Also, the suspected sources of impairments should be listed as agriculture and other point sources, such as sewage treatment plants, many of which are significant contributors of Dead Zone-causing pollution. There is substantial scientific data collected by Dr. Nancy Rabalais and others supporting this request. For more information you can find data about Dr. Rabalais' mid-summer Dead Zone cruises at gulfhypoxia.net. Specific maps of the Dead Zones extent can be found at gulfhypoxia.net/Results/ShelfwideCruises/ and www.gulfhypoxia.net/shelfwide07/.

EPA Response

Currently, segment 120606 is listed in Category 5 for Nitrate/Nitrite, Phosphorus and low dissolved oxygen. Regarding the other segments listed above, the current data collected as part of the LDEQ routine monitoring program shows these coastal segments to be meeting the applicable dissolved oxygen criterion. EPA will continue to work with the state on developing assessment methods that are useful in determining support of aquatic life in coastal waters.

Subsegment 050901 should include point sources, such as sewage treatment plants as suspected sources. According to the draft of the current *Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan*, point sources contribute 22% of the nitrogen and 34% of the phosphorus loads into the Gulf of Mexico. Therefore, these sources should be added to all Gulf impairments that experience low-oxygen conditions due to the Dead Zone caused when the Mississippi River meets the Gulf.

EPA Response

The State is not required to submit a list of potential sources to EPA with the 303(d) List, nor does EPA have the authority to approve suspected sources of impairments. See CFR § 130.10, State submittals to EPA. Loadings attributed to nonpoint and point sources will be allocated during TMDL development.

The Mississippi River should be listed on the 303(d) list. The Dead Zone is caused by nitrogen and phosphorus that flows down the Mississippi and Atchafalaya Rivers. Since these nutrients obviously cause an impairment to the Gulf of Mexico, manifested as the Dead Zone, subsegments 070101 and 070201 of the Mississippi River should be listed so a TMDL can be developed in order to both clean up the river and the Gulf Dead Zone.

EPA Response

According to data collected through LDEQ's routine monitoring program, subsegments 070101 and 070201 are meeting their applicable dissolved oxygen criteria. For the purpose of listing waters under 40 CFR § 130.7(b), the term applicable water quality standards, refer to those water quality standards

established under section 303 of the Clean Water Act. See 40 CFR § 130.7(b)(3). Currently, there are no numeric nutrient criteria contained within Louisiana's water quality standards to determine use support. EPA cannot list a waterbody for a parameter which does not have any applicable standard or translator of the narrative standard. The State of Louisiana and EPA will continue to work on the development of nutrient criteria which are protective of aquatic life and meet the objectives of the Clean Water Act.