that both we and USEPA would prefer the use of local data if we have it. Effluent hardness and chloride can be used to calculate inside-mixing-zone maximum WQS since these numbers apply at the discharge point.

Response: We have recalculated sulfate and chloride based on the background water quality that Ohio EPA has provided. The Table below illustrates the original calculations versus the new calculations using Ohio EPA background water quality for Piney Creek:

Criteria	Original Sulfate or Chloride Computed WQS	Revised Sulfate or Chloride WQS*
Acute WQS Sulfate	1158	6942
IMZM Sulfate	1505	9025
Acute WQS Chloride	623	578
Chronic WQS Chloride	385	357

*Computed using Ohio EPA background data: hardness =283 mg/L, sulfate = 554 mg/L and chloride = 168 mg/L