WQMB DEC 03 2012

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
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November 27, 2012

Mr. John DeLashmit
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
901 North 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

Re: Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation

Dear Mr. DeLashmit:

This letter responds to your request dated September 27, 2012, for concurrence that your approval of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' revisions to the Missouri water quality standards is not likely to adversely affect federally listed species. The following comments are provided under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321-4347), and the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544).

We have reviewed your report assessing the potential effects of the revisions to the water quality standards adopted by the Missouri Clean Water Commission on July 1, 2011. We agree that any potential effects of the revisions are either discountable or beneficial if federally listed species occur in areas where the revisions are applicable. Therefore, we concur with your determination that the approval actions are not likely to adversely affect federally listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat in the state of Missouri.

This concludes Section 7 consultation. Thank you for your continued coordination. Should you have questions concerning this response, please contact Andy Roberts at (573) 234-2132, extension 110.

Sincerely,

Amy Salveter
Field Supervisor

cc: MDC; Jefferson City, MO (Policy Coordination)