Message

From: Hutton Brown [hbrown@selcga.org]
Sent: 12/7/2017 8:50:32 PM
To: Cooper, Jamal [cooper.jamal@epa.gov]; Godfrey, Annie [Godfrey.Annie@epa.gov]
CC: Benante, Joanne [benante.joanne@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Change in Georgia Water Quality Standards

I am generally available in January so if you tell me what's good for you I can make it work.

Thanks.

Hutton Brown
Senior Attorney
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From: Cooper, Jamal [mailto:cooper.jamal@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2017 3:35 PM
To: Hutton Brown; Godfrey, Annie
Cc: Benante, Joanne
Subject: RE: Change in Georgia Water Quality Standards

Hutton,

A meeting would be fine but it would have to take place after the holidays due to schedule conflicts. Please let me know your availability accordingly.

Thanks,

Jamal Cooper
Water Quality Standards Section
Water Protection Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-562-9314

From: Hutton Brown [mailto:hbrown@selcga.org]
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2017 10:01 AM
To: Godfrey, Annie <Godfrey.Annie@epa.gov>
Cc: Cooper, Jamal <cooper.jamal@epa.gov>; Benante, Joanne <benante.joanne@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Change in Georgia Water Quality Standards

Ok, I would like to request a meeting with y'all if you will allow me so that I can explain what is going on. The State is allowing Rayonier to rewrite the regulation because Rayonier doesn't like the way it was applied by an administrative law judge. The entire Georgia Water Coalition is very upset about it and its getting a lot of press.

Thanks

Hutton

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From: Godfrey, Annie [mailto:Godfrey.Annie@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2017 9:58 AM
To: Hutton Brown
Cc: Cooper, Jamal; Benante, Joanne
Subject: RE: Change in Georgia Water Quality Standards

We would need to review it carefully to see if it meets our definition of a change to water quality standards. I can't say at this point whether it does.

From: Hutton Brown [mailto:hbrown@selcga.org]
Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2017 9:55 AM
To: Godfrey, Annie <Godfrey.Annie@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Change in Georgia Water Quality Standards

Thanks Annie. So are you saying that EPA does not have to formally approve this?

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From: Godfrey, Annie [mailto:Godfrey.Annie@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2017 9:52 AM
To: Hutton Brown
Subject: FW: Change in Georgia Water Quality Standards

I sent it to the wrong address the first time. Sorry.

From: Godfrey, Annie
Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2017 9:45 AM
To: 'Hutton Brown' <hbrown@greenlaw.org>
Cc: Cooper, Jamal <cooper.jamal@epa.gov>; Megan Hinkle <mhinkle@selcga.org>; Benante, Joanne <benante.joanne@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Change in Georgia Water Quality Standards

EPD and the state of Georgia have the primary authority for adopting, reviewing, and revising water quality standards including the narrative standard. We were not aware of the proposed re-writing of the state narrative standard, but will follow the state's progress with this revision.

Please let us know if you have further questions.

Annie Godfrey

From: Hutton Brown [mailto:hbrown@greenlaw.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 4:24 PM
To: Benante, Joanne <benante.joanne@epa.gov>
Cc: Godfrey, Annie <Godfrey.Annie@epa.gov>; Cooper, Jamal <cooper.jamal@epa.gov>; Megan Hinkle <mhinkle@selcga.org>
Subject: Re: Change in Georgia Water Quality Standards

Thanks Joanne.

I inadvertently sent this from my old email account. My current email is hbrown@selcga.org. Annie and Jamal, please reply to this one.

Hutton

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From: Benante, Joanne <benante.joanne@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2017 4:00 PM
To: Hutton Brown
Cc: Godfrey, Annie; Cooper, Jamal
Subject: RE: Change in Georgia Water Quality Standards

I have forwarded your email to Annie Godfrey who is the Chief of the Water Quality Standards Section here in EPA Region 4 and Jamal Cooper who is the Water Quality Standards Coordinator who oversees the state of Georgia's program. They should be able to answer your questions.

From: Hutton Brown [mailto:hbrown@greenlaw.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2017 3:40 PM
To: Benante, Joanne <benante.joanne@epa.gov>
Cc: Megan Hinkle <mhinkle@selcga.org>
Subject: Change in Georgia Water Quality Standards

Joanne, we have met and talked before about the Rayonier matter. I represent the Altamaha Riverkeeper in that.

Today EPD announced they are re-writing the state narrative standard. (See link below.) We believe that the motivation and the effect is to weaken it at the behest of Rayonier.

Can you tell me if EPA is involved in this? Doesn't EPA have to approve water quality standard revisions?

Please let me know or direct me to someone there who can assist.

Thanks,

Hutton

https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/GAEPD/bulletins/1ca2524

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