Message

From: Shumway, Laura [Shumway.Laura@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/16/2022 6:17:00 PM
To: Rose, Bob [Rose.Bob@epa.gov]; Sylvester, Frank [Sylvester.Frank.J@epa.gov]; Weyer, Erica [weyer.erica@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: FYI and Opportunity to Comment: US/Canada Poplar River Cooperative Monitoring Arrangement

Hey Bob,

We do not have any edits right now. I think our response should be to clue in R8. They have existing boundary watershed projects that could be helpful here.

I will still clue in Jason but I don't want to loop him into the review process here without a R8 lead on it.

How does that sound?
Laura

From: Rose, Bob <Rose.Bob@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 1:59 PM
To: Sylvester, Frank <Sylvester.Frank.J@epa.gov>; Shumway, Laura <Shumway.Laura@epa.gov>; Weyer, Erica <weyer.erica@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FYI and Opportunity to Comment: US/Canada Poplar River Cooperative Monitoring Arrangement

Frank:

Thanks. Laura has reached out to R8 directly concerning a different watershed to make sure lessons learned are being shared. Although I told Laura I assumed OITA reached out to R5 for insight (as opposed to confusion), you raise a great point that as presented we have no basis to assume R8 is involved, worst case.

I'll share OWM's comments with OITA right now. Others should feel free to add more feedback till COB and that too will be forwarded to OITA.

Thanks much.

Bob

From: Sylvester, Frank <Sylvester.Frank.J@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 1:48 PM
To: Rose, Bob <Rose.Bob@epa.gov>; Shumway, Laura <Shumway.Laura@epa.gov>; Weyer, Erica <weyer.erica@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FYI and Opportunity to Comment: US/Canada Poplar River Cooperative Monitoring Arrangement

Hi Bob,
Water Permits Division comments below, raising some questions that cross into OWOW and OST:

1. Montana and North Dakota are in Region 8. Is Region 8 involved?
2. The papers are primarily concerned with the creation and composition of the committee to oversee water quality and water availability impacts. There is a steam electric power plant on the Canada side with potential impacts to both (quality and availability) in Montana. It isn't apparent in the papers that EPA or Montana's concerns are directly addressed. The paper does not include the pertinent water quality standards Montana or

North Dakota have established for this river that would impact what precisely should be monitored and reported, how frequently, and whether there are threatened and endangered species populations that would be impact by cooling water intakes on the Canada side. The U.S. has established effluent limits for steam electric power generation and water quality criteria for the pollutants of concern, and Montana would likely want to work with HQ on whether a variance would be needed as a result of Canadian activities beyond their control. Again, we hope R8 is being engaged here.

3. Can R8 confirm whether this river transects any tribal territory? It appears from the first paper that it does. There are some vague references to engaging "indigenous" populations as part of stakeholder engagement, but if this covers tribal lands we will need to figure out whether tribal consultation must actually be initiated. Furthermore, we would need to consider their possibly separate water quality standards or other areas where they may be approved for Treatment as a State that differ from Montana or are federally permitted.

Frank Sylvester
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1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20460
Work Cell: 202-603-8133
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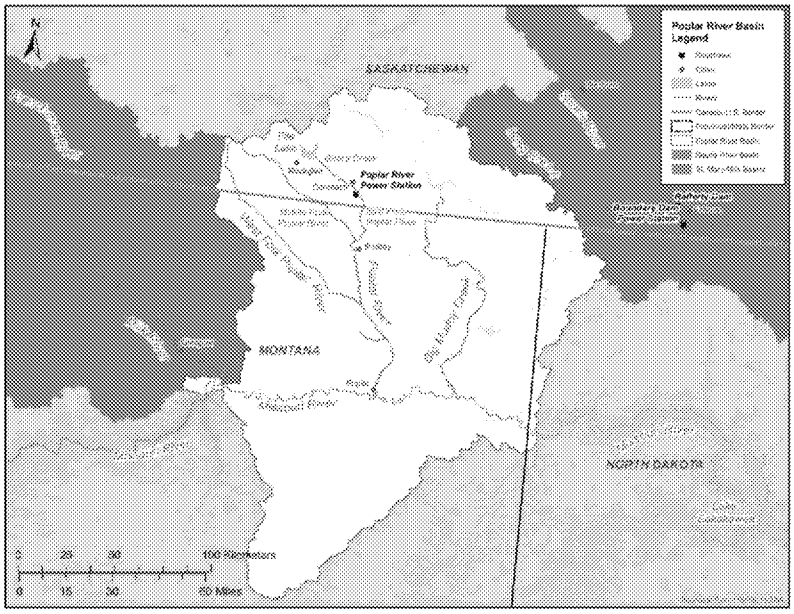
From: Rose, Bob <Rose.Bob@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 9:53 AM
To: Sylvester, Frank <Sylvester.Frank.J@epa.gov>; Nguyen, Amelia <nguyen.amelia@epa.gov>; Shumway, Laura <Shumway.Laura@epa.gov>; Weyer, Erica <weyer.erica@epa.gov>
Subject: FYI and Opportunity to Comment: US/Canada Poplar River Cooperative Monitoring Arrangement

Frank, Amelia, Laura, Weyer:

I'm forwarding this mostly as FYI but **if staff want to, they may comment by tomorrow, Wed 3:00 PM, by sending back to myself.**

The context is that an existing US/Canada Poplar River Cooperative Monitoring Arrangement (PRCMA) will expire in April 2022 unless renewed. The attachments provide background information to inform a potential new agreement to overcome past challenges/barriers. R5 is also reviewing. I attached a map below showing the three legs of the Poplar River.

Thanks. Bob



From: Kuklinski, Teresa <Kuklinski.Teresa@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 9:01 AM
To: Schardt, James <schardt.james@epa.gov>; Almodovar, Lisa <Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov>; Korleski, Christopher <korleski.christopher@epa.gov>; Goldman, Lisa <Goldman.Lisa@epa.gov>; Nettesheim, Todd <nettesheim.todd@epa.gov>; Elster, Mark <elster.mark@epa.gov>; Rose, Bob <Rose.Bob@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Poplar River: EPA review request from State - IJC spring semi-annuals paper

With the attachments this time.

Best, Teresa

From: Kuklinski, Teresa
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 8:58 AM
To: Schardt, James <schardt.james@epa.gov>; Almodovar, Lisa <Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov>; Korleski, Christopher <korleski.christopher@epa.gov>; Goldman, Lisa <Goldman.Lisa@epa.gov>; Nettesheim, Todd <nettesheim.todd@epa.gov>; Elster, Mark <elster.mark@epa.gov>; Rose, Bob <Rose.Bob@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Poplar River: EPA review request from State - IJC spring semi-annuals paper

Thanks. Adding Bob Rose.

Best, Teresa

From: Schardt, James <schardt.james@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 8:49 AM
To: Kuklinski, Teresa <Kuklinski.Teresa@epa.gov>; Almodovar, Lisa <Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov>; Korleski, Christopher <korleski.christopher@epa.gov>; Goldman, Lisa <Goldman.Lisa@epa.gov>; Nettesheim, Todd <nettesheim.todd@epa.gov>; Elster, Mark <elster.mark@epa.gov>
Cc: Schardt, James <schardt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Poplar River: EPA review request from State - IJC spring semi-annuals paper

Thanks Teresa, looks like this is outside of the Great Lakes basin so GLNPO will defer to others at EPA.

"Three tributary branches of the Poplar River, the West Fork Poplar, Middle Fork Poplar, and East Fork Poplar, arise in Saskatchewan and flow south through Montana and the Fort Peck Reservation (Assiniboine and Sioux Nations) before merging into a single Poplar River and then joining with the Missouri River. Big Muddy Creek, a tributary of the Missouri running parallel to the east side of the Poplar Basin, was included with the Poplar during IJC's restructuring of the Red River Board in 2016."

-jamie

From: Kuklinski, Teresa <Kuklinski.Teresa@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 7:44 AM
To: Korleski, Christopher <korleski.christopher@epa.gov>; Goldman, Lisa <Goldman.Lisa@epa.gov>; Nettesheim, Todd <nettesheim.todd@epa.gov>; Schardt, James <schardt.james@epa.gov>
Cc: Almodovar, Lisa <Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov>; Elster, Mark <elster.mark@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Poplar River: EPA review request from State - IJC spring semi-annuals paper

For your review by tomorrow. Sorry for the quick turnaround.

Best, Teresa

From: Wagner, Briana F <WagnerBF@state.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2022 9:23 PM
To: Kuklinski, Teresa <Kuklinski.Teresa@epa.gov>
Subject: Poplar River: EPA review request from State - IJC spring semi-annuals paper

Dear Teresa,

Attached please find the Background Papers (BP) on Poplar River its 3 tabs, drafted in preparation for the 2022 spring IJC semi-annual meetings. You'll see that our Legal Advisor here at State, Lela Scott, has some pending questions we're working on, and we wanted to it get it to you for your review. This is the first of several papers I will send your way for review and clearance please. Thank you in advance for directing them to additional, appropriate experts if warranted.

Sincere thanks for your input. We would grateful for your review and comment by Wed March 16.

Cheers,
Briana

Briana F. Wagner
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