



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director

November 16, 2012

RE: City of Pataskala
Licking County
PWSID: OH4502512
SWAP: Protection Plan

Mr. Nathan Coey
Utility Director
City of Pataskala
621 West Broad Street, Suite 1-D
Pataskala, OH 43062

Dear Mr. Coey:

I am very pleased to inform you that the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency **endorses** the City of Pataskala's drinking water source protection plan as meeting the requirements of Ohio's Source Water Protection Program. This endorsement is based on the review of the October 2012 report, *Source Water Protection Plan, City of Pataskala, OH* prepared by Strand Associates, Inc. Please see the attachments to this letter, which include a formal statement of endorsement and some Ohio EPA recommendations

Ohio EPA commends the City of Pataskala for recognizing the importance of protecting its valuable ground water resources. We look forward to presenting you with a framed certificate of recognition for your efforts, signed by the Director of Ohio EPA. We hope you will be proud to display it.

If you have any questions concerning this review, please feel free to contact either Michael D. Bondoc at Ohio EPA's Central District Office (614-728-3872) or Linda Slattery at the Central Office (614-644-2752). Additional information on Ohio's Source Water Assessment and Protection Program can be found at <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/swap.aspx>.

Sincerely,

Barbara Lubberger
Supervisor, Source Water Protection Program
Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters

pc: District Office File
Barb Lubberger, DDAGW-CO
Patrick Karnes, Strand Associates, Inc. [4433 Professional Parkway Groveport, OH 43125]

Attachments (2)

ATTACHMENT A

Ohio EPA Review of the City of Pataskala's Drinking Water Source Protection Plan

Endorsement Statement

Ohio EPA endorses the City of Pataskala's drinking water source protection plan as meeting the requirements of Ohio's Source Water Protection Program. The plan identifies several priority contaminant sources within the delineated protection area and proposes protective strategies to address them. The proposed strategies are appropriate for a protection area with a high susceptibility and several significant potential pollution sources including a former chemical transport facility, major transportation routes and underground storage tanks.

The protective strategies emphasize education to target both water users and private well owners with regular mailings of source water protection information. The City will also reach out to businesses and the general public through press releases and the internet. The source water protection team will coordinate with the Licking County Soil and Water Conservation District to showcase source water protection with a street fair booth beginning in 2013. The City will install source water protection road signs along major roads entering the protection area and reach out to the company operating the railroad that travels through the protection area.

The City will coordinate with zoning inspectors to inspect oil and gas wells, above ground storage tanks and underground storage tanks. The water supply contingency plan features ongoing coordination with Licking County Disaster Services, law enforcement agencies, the fire department and the county health department.

The City is exploring future water source opportunities which include an interconnection with the Southwest Licking Community Water and Sewer District, connecting the Mill Street wellfield to the water treatment plant and investigating the need for a reservoir. The Utility Director and Administration will review the Source Water Protection Plan annually and update it as needed. Updates to the contingency plan will be reflected in any updates to the protection plan.

ATTACHMENT B

Ohio EPA Recommendations for Improving the City of Pataskala's Drinking Water Source Protection Plan

Ohio EPA offers the following recommendations for improving the Protection Plan. Please note that implementation of these recommendations is voluntary.

1. **Abandoned wells should be located and sealed.** Because the aquifer is highly susceptible, abandoned and unused wells should be permanently sealed to prevent surface sources from contaminating the aquifer. The City has already documented the location of private wells in and around the protection area and included the well driller's logs for these wells in the protection plan. The City should identify abandoned wells and encourage the well owners to seal them.
2. **Seek out new members to diversify the protection team.** To ensure widespread acceptance and future commitment to the protection plan, people representing diverse viewpoints and local expertise should be considered as additional team members. Potential team members may be found among business owners, teachers, local farmers, emergency management professionals, watershed coordinators, etc.
3. **Include copies of surveys and questionnaires in the protection plan.** The City plans to evaluate the effectiveness of the education plan by sending surveys with water bills. Examples of these surveys should be included in the protection plan document.