DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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JAN 3 0 2012

Mr. Kale Horton
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Kansas City District
700 Federal Building
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896

RE: Draft/Final Missouri General and Specific Conditions for Nationwide Permits
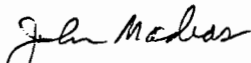
Dear Mr. Horton:

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Water Protection Program (Department) has enclosed the final draft of the Missouri Water Quality Certification (Certification) for the 2012 Nationwide Permits (NWPs) for review and approval by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). Changes to the Certification are dependent upon proposed language in the 2012 Missouri Regional Conditions and the 2012 NWPs. The Department will issue the final Certification after the Corps has completed the final review and the NWPs are ready for reissuance.

It is the Department's belief that permitted projects which follow the conditions of the State's Water Quality Certification will not violate water quality standards. The Department's objective with the 2012 NWP Water Quality Certification is to protect water quality, as well as to minimize the number of individual certifications issued to NWPs; thus streamlining the process, and reviewing those potential projects where water quality impacts appear to be a concern. Coordination between our agencies and consistency among the Corps districts is critical to the protection of our waters through efficient permitting.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Carrie M. Schulte, Department of Natural Resources, Water Protection Program, NPDES Permits and Engineering Section, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, (573) 751-7023 or via email at carrie.schulte@dnr.mo.gov.

Sincerely,

WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

John Madras
Director

JM:csl

Enclosure

c: Ms. Janet Sternberg, Missouri Department of Conservation
       Mr. Mike Lawson, Department of Natural Resources, Land Reclamation Program
       Mr. Rick Hansen, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
       Ms. Vicki Johnson, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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