



REGION 3

PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

July 28, 2025

Ms. Elizabeth McKercher, Director
Water Planning Division
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
1111 East Main Street, Suite 1400
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Ms. McKercher:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's (VADEQ) 2024 Integrated Report and supporting documentation and information submitted on March 28, 2025. VADEQ published the draft 2024 Integrated Report for public notice and comment from April 22, 2024, until May 22, 2024. The EPA has determined that VADEQ has met the requirements of Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and its implementing regulations with respect to all of the waterbody-pollutant combinations identified in the portion of the Integrated Report (Category 5) constituting VA's list of water quality-limited segments still requiring Total Maximum Daily Loads (2024 303(d) list). The EPA, therefore, approves VADEQ's decision to list these waters on the 2024 303(d) list as submitted electronically to the EPA through the Assessment, TMDL Tracking and Implementation System (ATTAINS), as detailed in this letter and the enclosed rationale. The enclosed approval rationale describes the applicable statutory and regulatory requirements and the EPA's review of Virginia's submission.

While the EPA is approving all waterbody-pollutant combinations identified on Virginia's 2024 303(d) list, the EPA is taking no action, at this time, on water quality related information suggesting the presence of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) in fish tissue in certain segments in the Middle Chickahominy River watershed. Until such time as EPA takes action, those waterbody-pollutant combinations will remain in the same Integrated Report category consistent with Virginia's 2024 303(d) list as submitted.

The EPA commends you and your staff for the thorough work and exemplary effort in developing the list. The EPA looks forward to working with VADEQ staff in preparation for the next Section 303(d) list submission due April 1, 2026, along with working to carry out the goals of the EPA's Vision for the Clean Water Act 303(d) Program.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff contact Ms. Jessica Martinsen, Chief, Standards and TMDLs Section, 1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103 at 215-814-5144 or martinsen.jessica@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Michelle H. Price-Fay, Director
Water Division

ENCLOSURE

1. Rationale for EPA Approval of Virginia's 2024 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List with Appendices