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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC  
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Ms. Sharon Worley, P.E., Project Manager  
Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District  
700 West Liberty Street  
Louisville, KY 40203-1911

**REFERENCE:** Close-out of Project XL for the Pilot Pretreatment Program of Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District

Dear Ms. Worley:

I am writing with regard to the final close-out of the environmental innovation project conducted by the Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District through the EPA program, *Project XL* (<http://www.epa.gov/projectxl/file2.htm>).

Project XL (“eXcellence in Leadership”) was an EPA national pilot innovation program that allowed state and local governments, businesses and federal facilities to develop innovative strategies with EPA to test better or more cost-effective ways of achieving environmental and public health protection. In exchange, EPA issued regulatory, program, policy, or procedural flexibility to conduct the experiment. EPA discontinued accepting new projects under Project XL in 2002 and is now in the process of completing documentation to close the records for individual projects.

In September of 2000, the Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD), the Commonwealth of Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KYDEP), and EPA were joint signatories to a Final Project Agreement for this innovative pilot project. The expected benefits of the project included attainment of measurably Superior Environmental Performance when compared to existing performance through improvement of Pretreatment Performance Measures. The project was designed to identify areas of ineffective resource utilization and achieve further reductions in key pollutant loadings, utilize baseline monitoring data to re-create site specific applications to the Jeffersontown Sewershed/Chenoweth Run Watershed system, and reallocate resources regarding the specific Prioritization Strategy.

The outcomes of these projects were described in a 2006/2007 report by the Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District which was forwarded to us by Lisa Gaus at the Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District. This report appears on EPA’s website (<http://www.epa.gov/projectxl/msd/page1.htm>). In reference to the goals and expectations outlined in the Final Project Agreement, the final report indicated that the development and application of Pretreatment

Program Performance Measures has been an overall success, allowing for the identification of specific pollutants of concern (POCs) for the Jeffersontown sewershed and Chenoweth Run watershed and informing the development and implementation of strategies to reduce the overall POC loadings and measurably improve water quality in receiving waters. In addition, a stronger relationship focused on continued superior performance has developed among the Louisville and Jefferson County MSD and project stakeholders (including local and state agencies and industries). Of special note is cost savings experienced by the participating facilities, a substantial part of which has been directed towards environmental education and community engagement.

By this letter, we are completing the documentation for the completion of the pilot project conducted by the Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) under Project XL. We would like to thank representatives of the city, the state, and others who worked hard on developing and implementing the project. Much has been learned from these projects through those efforts.

If we can provide you with any additional information on Project XL, please feel free to contact Gerald Filbin at EPA Headquarters Office of Policy (202) 566-2182.

Sincerely yours,



Nancy Ketcham-Colwill, Acting Director

cc: Lisa Gaus, Louisville and Jefferson County MSD  
Pam Swingle, EPA Region 4  
David Phillips, EPA Region 4  
Doug Mundrick, EPA Region 4  
Gerald Filbin, EPA/AO/OP/OSEM  
Nicholas Ryu, EPA/AO/OP/OSEM