

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR

JAMES ZEHRINGER, DIRECTOR

Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management 2045 Morse Road, Building F-3 Columbus, OH 43229-6693 Phone: (614) 265-6922; Fax: (614) 265-6910

June 19, 2017

Dear Mr. Hanson

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management (DOGRM) appreciates the opportunity to participate in the Federalism Consultation Webinar on June 7, 2017. In response to the call for follow-up comments, the DOGRM submits the attached discussion regarding situations encountered by the Ohio Orphan Well Program that we believe should be excluded from consideration as Waters of the United States (WOTUS) in your development of the rule under the Clean Water Act. Inclusion of these "waters" under the definition of WOTUS would result in significant delays in addressing these environmental problems and unnecessary diversion of state funds while documenting site conditions and pursuing federal permits.

If you have questions regarding this submittal, please contact me at (614) 265-6783.

Sincerely,

Scott R. Kell Assistant Chief

cc: Gerry Baker, Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission Mike Paque, Groundwater Protection Council Richard Simmers, Chief, ODNR, DOGRM