



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

OCT 25 2017

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:  
W-15J

Mr. Eric Oswald, P.E., Chief  
Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance Division  
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
525 West Allegan Street  
P.O. Box 30473  
Lansing Michigan 48909-7973

Re: Final Report – EPA’s 2016 Michigan Drinking Water Program Review

Dear Mr. Oswald:

I enclose a copy of the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) 2016 Michigan Drinking Water Program Review Report.

The Michigan Drinking Water Program Review undertaken by EPA was a systematic process of reviewing the State’s drinking water program implementation, including the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data, that ultimately resulted in recommendations designed to improve the program. The Program Review was intended to: 1) assess the quality and effectiveness of Michigan’s drinking water program; 2) stimulate program planning and improvement; and 3) encourage program development in directions that parallel the purpose of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).

The Report includes an executive summary and three chapters: (1) Drinking Water Program File Review; (2) Michigan Lead Rule Review (including a review of LCR implementation in Flint); and (3) Enforcement Verification. Each chapter includes a series of appendices that contain supporting information collected during the review.

Over the next few weeks, my staff will be setting up a series of meetings with you and your staff to discuss the Program Review Report’s findings and recommendations. The goal is for our agencies to work together to ensure that program improvements are made. While the report has numerous recommendations, EPA recognizes the improvements that MDEQ has made to its drinking water program over the past year, such as hiring staff to enhance technical capability, revising the sampling protocol for lead and copper, and establishing a “peer review” process that triggers a review of any water system’s significant changes in source water or treatment.

On behalf of EPA, I would like to thank you and your staff for the cooperation shown to EPA's Program Review team. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (312) 353-8320 or [korleski.christopher@epa.gov](mailto:korleski.christopher@epa.gov), or have your staff contact Tom Poy at (312) 886-5991 or [poy.thomas@epa.gov](mailto:poy.thomas@epa.gov).

Sincerely,



Christopher Korleski  
Director, Water Division

Enclosure

cc: (Via e-mail)  
Ms. C. Heidi Grether, Director, MDEQ  
Mr. George Krisztian, Assistant Chief, Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance Division  
(DWMAD), MDEQ  
Mr. Richard Benzie, Assistant Chief, DWMAD, MDEQ  
Ms. Amy Lachance, Chief, Community Water Supply Section, MDEQ  
Ms. Dana DeBruyn, Chief, Environmental Health Section, MDEQ