



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION III

1650 Arch Street

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

SEP 18 2018

The Honorable Ben Grumbles, Secretary
Maryland Department of the Environment
Montgomery Park Business Center
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Dear Secretary Grumbles: *BEN*

On August 29, 2016, the Maryland Department of the Environment adopted new regulations and revisions to Maryland's Public Water System Supervision (PWSS) Program. Specifically, Maryland adopted regulations to implement and enforce the Revised Total Coliform Rule.

On February 12, 2017, the Water Supply Program submitted a primacy program revision request to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for review and approval. EPA has reviewed this request and finds that Maryland's revisions are no less stringent than the corresponding Federal regulations. EPA is pleased to inform you that we have tentatively approved these revisions to Maryland's PWSS Program.

EPA has submitted a public notice to the *Federal Register* for publication stating that Maryland's regulations have been tentatively approved. The notice also opens a 30-day comment period during which interested parties can request a hearing regarding EPA's determination. EPA will place newspaper advertisements in the *Baltimore Sun* announcing this decision. If no significant comments are received, EPA's determination on Maryland's regulations will be final and approved at the end of the comment period. We will inform you and your staff of all comments received and any public hearing requests.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, or have your staff contact Ms. Kyle Zieba, EPA's Maryland Liaison, at 215-814-5420 and zieba.kyle@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cosmo Servidio", is written over a horizontal line.

Cosmo Servidio
Regional Administrator

