

Ohio EPA

OTCO Wastewater Workshop

Westerville, OH

Ashley Ward, P.E. Ohio EPA

April 2, 2024



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H2Ohio

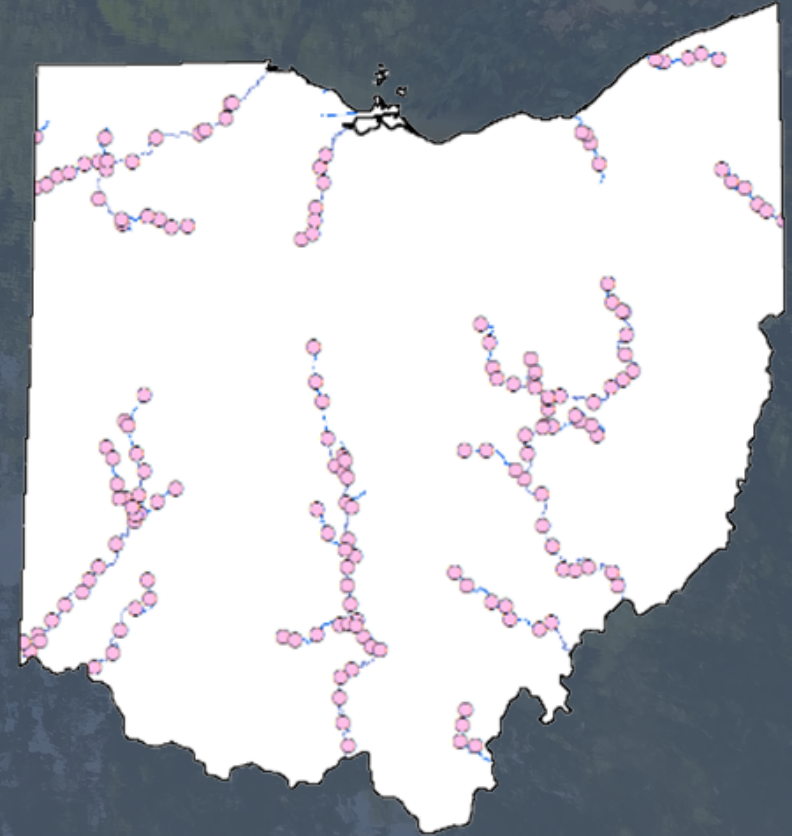
OHIO'S PLAN FOR CLEAN WATER

H2Ohio Rivers Initiative



Emerging contaminants assessment

- Ohio EPA contractors are collecting Fish tissue, Water Column, tissue samples for PFAS
- Sampling will re-start Spring 2024, completed Fall 2024
- 151 locations statewide, within our Large Rivers.



H2Ohio Rivers Initiative

Dam Removal/Habitat Restoration

- 2023 – \$3,500,000 Funded Troy Dam Removal and Habitat
- 2023 – \$1,500,000 Funded 2 Piqua Dam Removals

Future Projects?? Let us know!!



H2Ohio Rivers Initiative

Salt Equipment/Facility Upgrade Grants

- Applications closed January 31, 24
- Currently evaluating proposals
- > \$14,5000,000 in request
- Awards anticipated Spring 2024



Rule Updates

- Early Stakeholder Outreach (ESO)
- Interested Party Review (IPR)
- Proposed Rules
- Final File



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Rule Updates

- 401/Wetlands
- Water Quality Standards
- Permit To Install (PTI)
- NPDES
- Biosolids/Sewage Sludge
- Storm Water
- Nutrient Assessment (ESO coming in May)



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Rulemaking to Incorporate Mitigation Guidance and Senate Bill 9

- July 21, 2024
- Wetland Water Quality Standards (OAC 3745-1-50 thru -54)
- 401 Rules (OAC 3745-32-01 through -04)
 - Stream Mitigation Rules
 - Ohio Stream Assessment Method (OSAM)



© TNC, November 3, 2022



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Rule Updates - WQS

- Aquatic Life Use (working on drafting language)
 - Selenium, peracetic acid (PAA), bromine, barium, strontium, ammonia
- Variances
- Designations



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Rule Updates - PTIs

- Extending expiration to 60 months, with no extensions
- Exempting discharging systems approved by ODH Technical Advisory Committee under 1,000 gallons per day (gpd)
- Evaluating requirements of PE stamp for onsite sewage treatment systems under 1,000 gpd
- Requiring facilities who spray irrigate treated effluent to have a Certified Professional Operator



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Biosolids Rule Review

- Current rules: Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-40
 - Effective December 1, 2018
- Rules are reviewed every 5 years
- Early Stakeholder Outreach (ESO) ended on Nov. 29
- Currently drafting new rule language for Interested Party Review (IPR) this summer
- Get involved! <https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/regulations>



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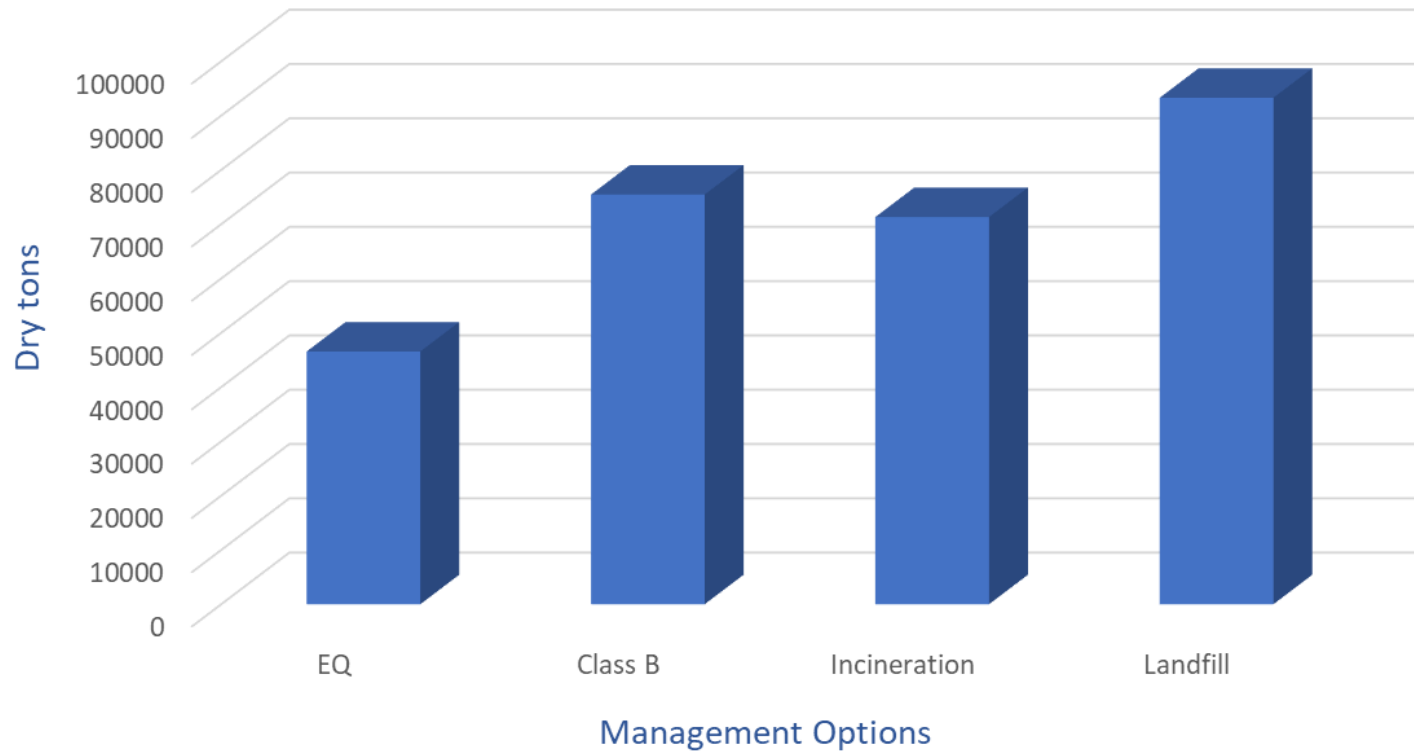
Ohio's Biosolids Program Goals

- Protect public health and the environment
- Encourage the beneficial reuse of biosolids
- Minimize the creation of nuisance odors



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Sewage Sludge Management in Ohio - 2022



42% beneficial use
33% landfill
25% incineration



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Biosolids Webpage

Ohio EPA / Divisions & Offices / Surface Water / Permitting / Biosolids Program

Biosolids Program

Surface Water

Welcome

Announcements

About DSW

Programs

Financial Assistance

Guides & Manuals

Permitting

Reports & Data

Regulations

Training

Ohio EPA's biosolids program regulates the disposal of sewage sludge and/or the beneficial use of biosolids generated by non-industrial wastewater treatment plants in Ohio, as well as any sewage sludge or biosolids brought into Ohio by out-of-state, non-industrial wastewater treatment plants. The goals of the biosolids program are to protect public health and the environment, encourage the beneficial reuse of biosolids and minimize the creation of nuisance odors.

To learn more about biosolids, click [here](#).

Expand All Sections

Program Updates

Biosolids in Ohio

Forms and Calculators

Rules

Guidance Documents

Contacts

LAUNCH

Biosolids Application Sites Map

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For more information

- [U.S. EPA Biosolids Webpage](#)
- [U.S. EPA - Assessing Pollutants Found in Biosolids](#)
- [Individual Wastewater Permit Finder](#)
- [eBusiness Center Help Desk](#)

<https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/permitting/biosolids-program>

New Biosolids Program Contacts

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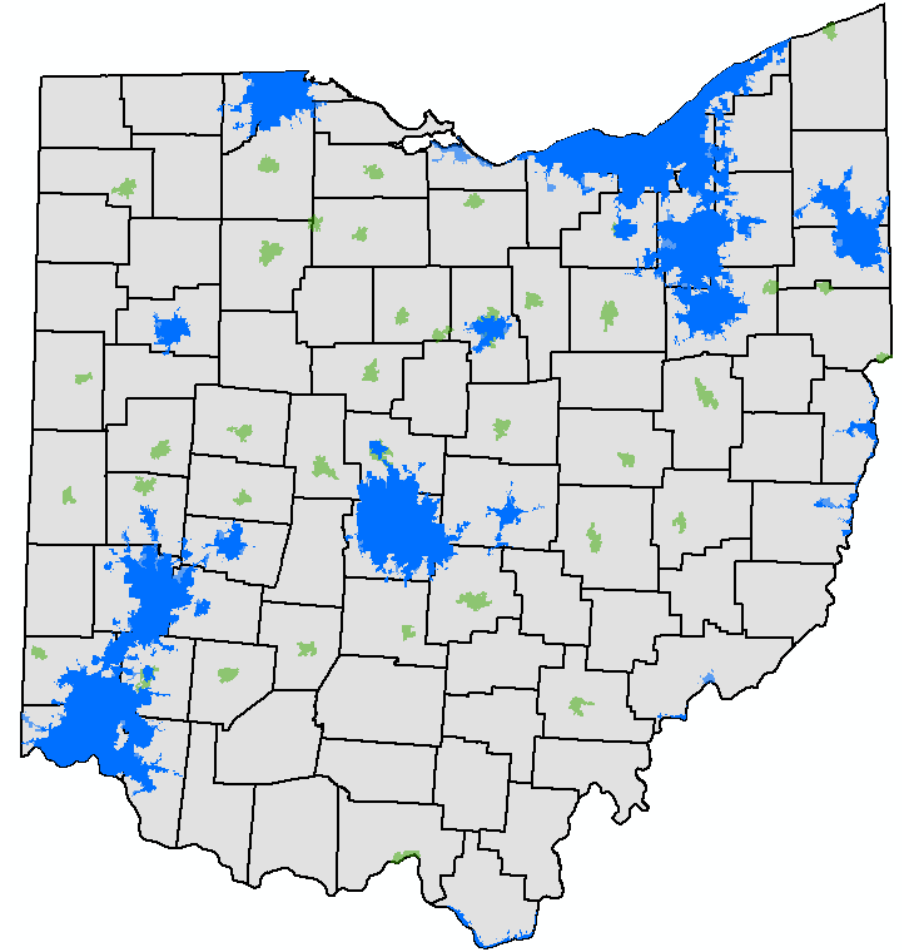
Central and Southeast Districts

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NPDES MS4 Stormwater Program

- New regulated MS4 Map available:
<https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/permitting/stormwater-program>
- New communities subject to the program will be contacted within next 2 months



EPA/State NPDES SNC National Compliance Initiative (NCI)

- **Primary Goal**: Reduce the national rate of NPDES Significant Non-Compliance (SNC) by **50% over five years** (FY2018 – FY2022).

National
SNC Rate



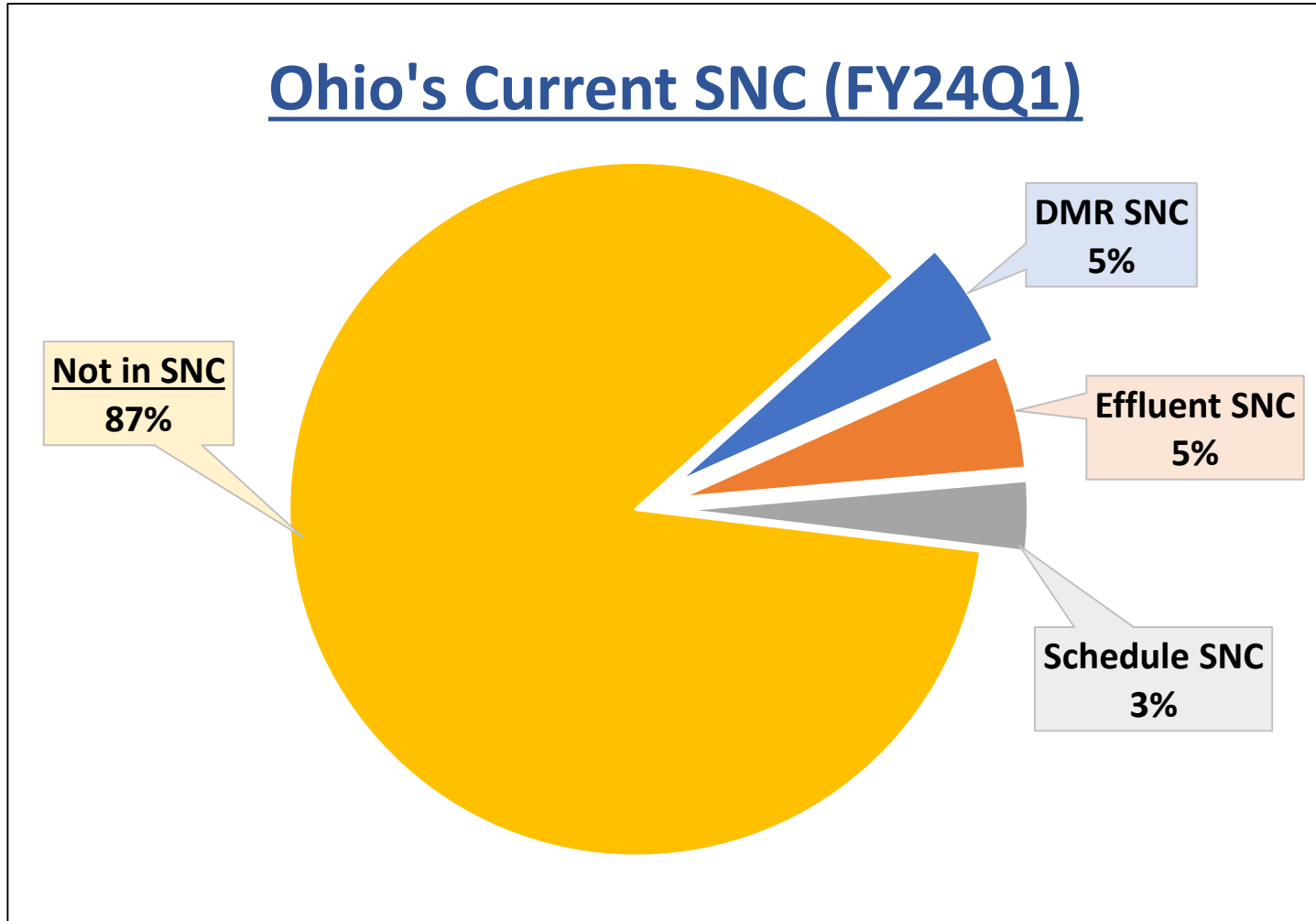
- Baseline = 20.3%
- Current = 9.0%

Ohio SNC Rate



- Baseline = 21.0%
- **Current = 10.8%**

Ohio's Current SNC (FY24Q1)



OH Current SNC Breakdown

Type of SNC	# of Facilities	%SNC
DMR SNC	157	5%
Effluent SNC	169	5%
Schedule SNC	104	3%
NOT in SNC	2,735	87%

Priority Projects – Region 5 Objections

- Ohio's NPDES universe includes **292 majors & 2,920 minors**
- Every year EPA, Region 5 selects around 10 permits to review in real time
- Euclid and Port Clinton were both on EPA's real time review list

Priority Projects – Region 5 Objections

- Ohio included a phosphorus limit of 1.0 mg/L in the permits for both Euclid and Port Clinton
- Specific objection from R5 for Euclid included a limit based on the facility achieving a phosphorus concentration of 0.007 mg/L, which is not technically feasible
- On February 29, 2024 Region 5 generally objected to the NPDES permit for Port Clinton, EPA has until April 24 to send a specific objection

Priority Projects – Euclid Objection Timeline

- US EPA Specific Objections to Euclid’s Proposed NPDES Permit Renewal
 - Received November 2, 2021
 - Hearing with R5 Administrator Shore was held June 7 & 8, 2022
 - Administrator Shore can withdraw the objection, modify it or uphold it
 - September 2023 Ohio EPA team met with Region 5 to negotiate a solution

Phosphorus Limits?

- No new initiatives on the immediate horizon to include new or lower phosphorus limits

Existing Permitting Strategy:

- New or lower phosphorus limits will be included in permits when there is non-attainment because of nutrients and point source reductions will result in meaningful improvement
- New or lower phosphorus limits will be included for new or expanding facilities when necessary to prevent degradation

Wet Weather

- January 19, 2024 EPA issued the CSO Temporal Recreational Uses or WQS variances based on 40 CFR 131.10(g)(3) memo
- Recently issued draft guidance on permitting CSOs



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Government Agencies Responsible for 208 Plans




Environmental Protection Agency

E-PLANS!

April 15, 2024!!

- Better customer service
- Faster review times
- Consistency statewide
- Transparency!



The screenshot shows the 'Plan Review' web application interface. At the top left is the 'Ohio Environmental Protection Agency' logo. The main header includes 'Plan Review' and navigation tabs for 'Projects', 'Settings', and 'Profile'. A 'Sign Out' link is in the top right. On the left, there is a 'Start New Project' section with a 'Review Type' dropdown menu and an 'Add Project' button. The main content area is titled 'Divisions and Programs' and lists various divisions and their associated programs. Below this is a 'View' section with a dropdown menu set to 'Within Last 6 Months' and a table of project submissions.

Group	Identifier	Name	Create Date	Status	Open
<None>	DSW-515	Tony Nosko	7/10/2023	Plan Submission	
<None>	DSW-507	Tony Nosko	5/25/2023	Plan Submission	
<None>	DSW-505	Tony Nosko	5/24/2023	Plan Submission	



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WWTP Regionalization Evaluation

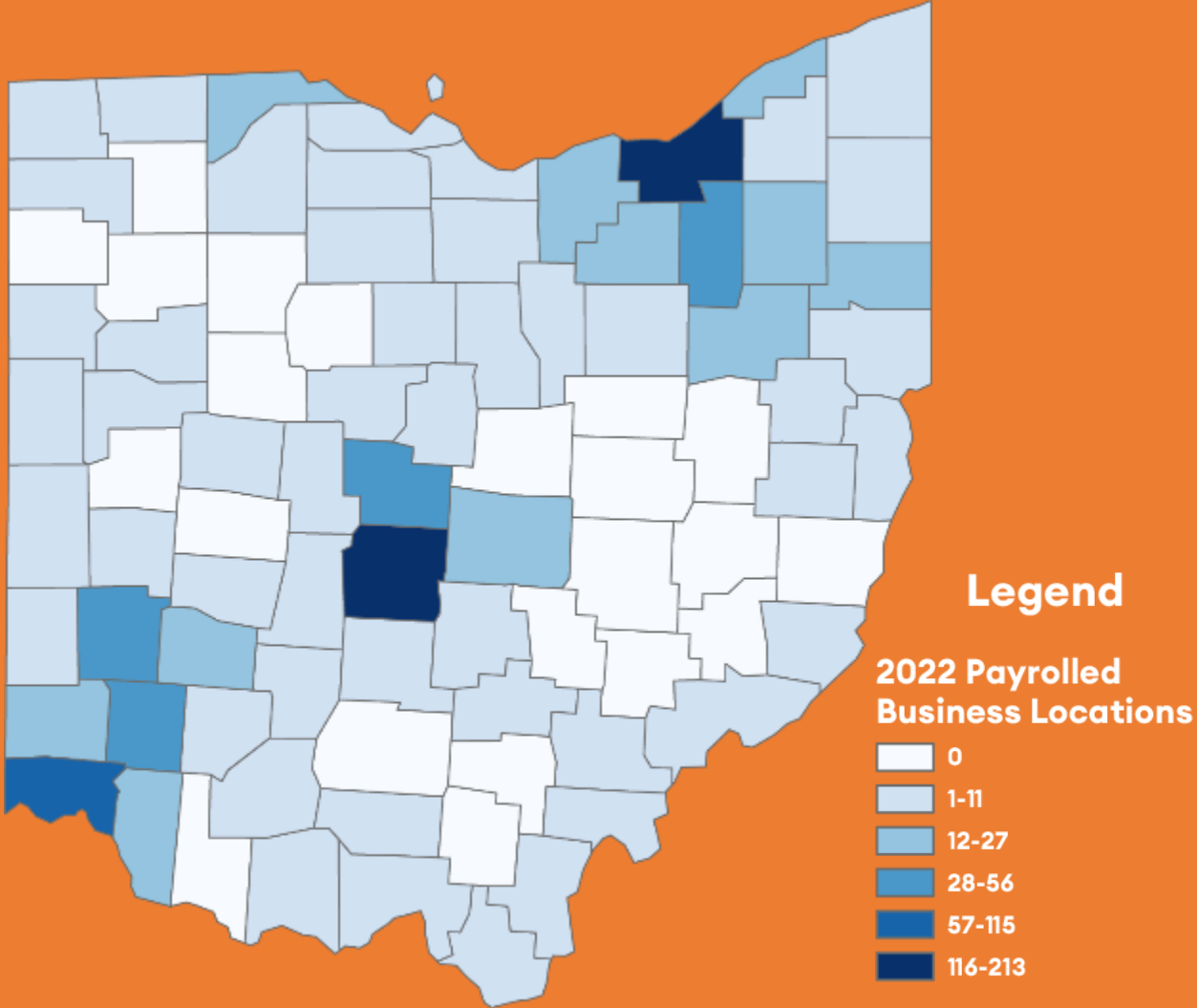
WPCLF Loan Nominations

- *Evaluation of neighboring wastewater treatment plants and their existing capacities within a 10-mile radius of the edges of the existing collection system. If no neighboring treatment plants exist within 10 miles, provide the name of the closest WWTP beyond 10 miles and indicate the distance.*
- *Evaluation of potential package plant elimination with sewer extension and sewer extension to unsewered areas. These activities can benefit the local watershed by removing other sources of pollution while also increasing the rate payer base for the proposed project.*
- *Documentation of outreach to neighboring utilities including meeting dates, public forums, and technical details for a potential regionalization project for WWTP expansion or replacement and how those needs align with the nominated project.*
- *Evaluation of potential shared cost savings of operator employment, billing and collections, and reduced O&M costs for running one potential facility versus two.*
- *A proposed rate structure supporting loan repayment.*



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Dramatic Growth in the Data Center Industry over the Past Decade



3X Data Center Growth

In 2011, Ohio had 379 data center locations -

Today, there are over 1,100



Source: Lightcast, 2022 Payrolled Business Locations in NAICS 51-8210: Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services
This document is not a public record and its content should not be reprinted in any other document. Ohio Revised Code 149.43(A)(1)(bb) and 187.04(C)(1) and (2)



WWTP-Treated Effluent as Process Water



 WATERREUSE
ARIZONA WATERREUSE
CALIFORNIA WATERREUSE
COLORADO WATERREUSE
FLORIDA WATERREUSE
MID-ATLANTIC WATERREUSE
NEVADA WATERREUSE
NEW MEXICO WATERREUSE
OHIO



Ohio Water
Development Authority

Central Ohio 15-County Water Study

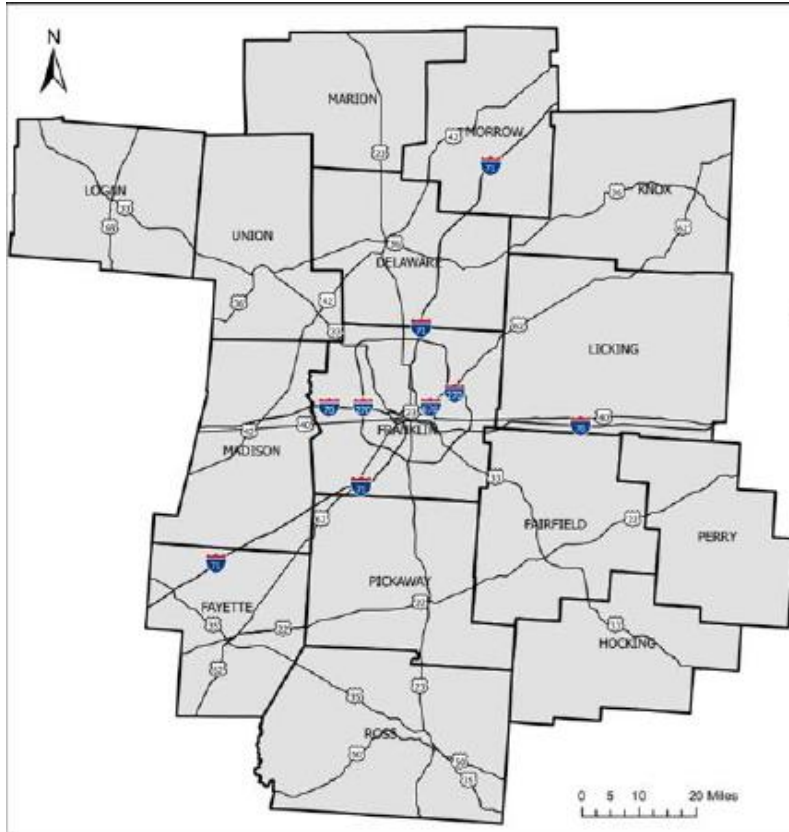


**Department of
Natural Resources**



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Request for Proposals - Scope



Comprehensive Water Study

- Current availability
- Current demand
- Projected future demand 2030, 2040, & 2050
- Gap analysis
- Regionalization recommendations
- Water reuse opportunities
- Siting locations for new mega water users

Thank You



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