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A/US

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Subject
2003 R.C. 37 (LD 1059)

Hetty,

This is to confirm the status of the 2003 R.C. 37 (LD 1059) which was a resolve submitted to EPA for review as a revision to water quality standards on December 17, 2003. As EPA understands it, the act directed Maine DEP to revise Maine's water quality standards to recognize a distinction between water storage reservoirs and natural lakes. EPA understands that the resolve does not exempt DEP from the normal water quality standards revision process which would include public review, additional legislative action and support of a UAA if the result was a lowering of water quality standards. However, DEP currently has no plans to move forward with the adoption of such revisions.

EPA finds that the resolve, by itself, is not a new or revised water quality standard and therefore is not subject to EPA review and approval under Section 303(C) of the Clean Water Act. EPA does not anticipate any further action (such as submittals or approval letters) from Maine DEP or EPA in regard to 2003 R.C. 37 (LD1059).

Ellen

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