

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF WATER

Dr. Mary Anne Nelson Surface & Wastewater Division Administrator Idaho Department of Environmental Quality 1410 North Hilton St. Boise, ID 83706-1255

Dear Dr. Nelson,

Thank you for your comment letter dated February 24, 2023 on EPA's proposed rule titled "Water Quality Standards Regulatory Revisions to Protect Tribal Reserved Rights." Your comment included a request that EPA extend the public comment period on the proposed rule for at least 60 days.

We have considered your request and have decided not to extend the public comment period on the proposed rule. We appreciate your desire to better understand the potential economic and regulatory impact of the proposed rule on the citizens of Idaho. EPA will consider all of the input you have provided as we develop the final rule and would welcome follow up discussions with Idaho DEQ on this issue as we move forward.

Please reach out to me at hisel-mccoy.sara@epa.gov or have your staff contact Jennifer Brundage, EPA's rule manager at brundage.jennifer@epa.gov, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Sara Hisel McCoy Director, Standards and Health Protection Division

cc: Beth Spelsberg, IDEQ