



STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF ENVIRONMENT

October 23, 2009

Miguel I. Flores  
Acting Deputy Regional Administrator  
U.S.E.P.A., Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Re: Modeling of Illinois River Watershed

Dear Mr. Flores:

In response to your letter dated October 1, 2009, I am writing to designate Jon Craig as Oklahoma's technical liaison to coordinate with Region 6 and Arkansas in the development of a model of the Illinois River watershed. Jon's contact information is:

Jon Craig  
Director, Water Quality Division  
Department of Environmental Quality  
P. O. Box 1677  
Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1677  
Jon.Craig@deq.ok.gov  
405.702.8100

While Mr. Craig will serve as the designated contact, please note that we expect to coordinate with and involve Oklahoma agencies in addition to ODEQ as meetings and activities may warrant. For example, it is appropriate that staff of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board contribute monitoring and Water Quality Standards input, and that staff of the Oklahoma Conservation Commission provide input on nonpoint source issues and watershed planning.

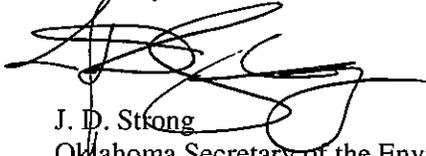
Let me highlight a couple of items of particular interest for Oklahoma. First, the success of this undertaking certainly will depend in large part on careful, coordinated planning. For this reason, we specifically request that Oklahoma have input into the scoping of the project. Second, you are aware of Oklahoma's concerns about permit limits that recently have been set based in part on input from Region 6. As we move ahead we look forward to a product designed and tailored to protect Oklahoma's Outstanding Resource Waters and meet water quality standards.

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I'm sure you know that over the past several decades Oklahoma agencies have gathered extensive data and modeling information on the Illinois River watershed. We would be glad to provide any of that data and information to the extent it might be useful in pursuing this modeling effort.

Thank you for offering Oklahoma the opportunity to be involved in this extremely important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. D. Strong", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is somewhat stylized and overlaps the line.

J. D. Strong  
Oklahoma Secretary of the Environment

C: Steve Thompson, ODEQ  
Jon Craig, ODEQ  
Duane Smith, OWRB  
Mike Thralls, OKCC