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Mr. Miguel Flores, Director
 Water Quality Protection Division
 USEPA Region 6
 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
 Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Dear Mr. Flores:

In a letter dated May 3, 2010, the Oklahoma Secretary of Environment and the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality sent you a letter strongly urging you to include Lake Tenkiller in your current efforts to establish TMDLs for the Illinois River watershed.

The Greater Tenkiller Area Association (GTAA) strongly supports the State of Oklahoma's position that TMDLs for Lake Tenkiller are essential to the long-term health of the lake.

The GTAA is a State recognized not-for-profit organization, comprised of business owners and residents of the Lake Tenkiller area. We count among our members the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Tenkiller and Cherokee Landing State Parks. Our primary mission is to promote the Lake Tenkiller area for tourism, recreation and economic development. The quality of the water in Lake Tenkiller has been and continues to be one of the major selling points for the area. Establishment of TMDLs for the lake is essential to prevention of further deterioration of the water quality and for long-term improvement of the existing water quality, especially for the upper portion of the lake, which is visibly impaired by excessive nutrients.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

John H. Ellis
 President

