



MAR 13 2012

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Street address: 629 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia 23218

Fax: 804-698-4019 - TDD (804) 698-4021

www.deq.virginia.gov

Douglas W. Domenech
Secretary of Natural Resources

David K. Paylor
Director

(804) 698-4020
1-800-592-5482

March 5, 2012

Ms. Marie E. Burns
Chief, Operations Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District Office
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21203-1715

RE: Section 401 Water Quality Certification for 2012 Reissuance of Nationwide Permits

Dear Ms. Burns:

Thank you for your letter of March 2, 2012, notifying us that the Nationwide Permits and their conditions are reissued, as listed in February 21, 2012, *Federal Register*. We have already begun our 60-day review process, and anticipate placing our preliminary Section 401 certification decision on public notice within the next few weeks. Virginia law requires a 30-day public notice and comment period of our preliminary water quality decision; however, I am confident that our final certification will be in place by April 20, 2012.

Should you have specific questions regarding our water quality certification, please contact David L. Davis of DEQ's Office of Wetlands & Stream Protection. Mr. Davis can be reached directly at 804-698-4105 or by e-mail at dave.davis@deq.virginia.gov. Thank you again for your letter, and we look forward to working with the Baltimore District in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David K. Paylor".

David K. Paylor