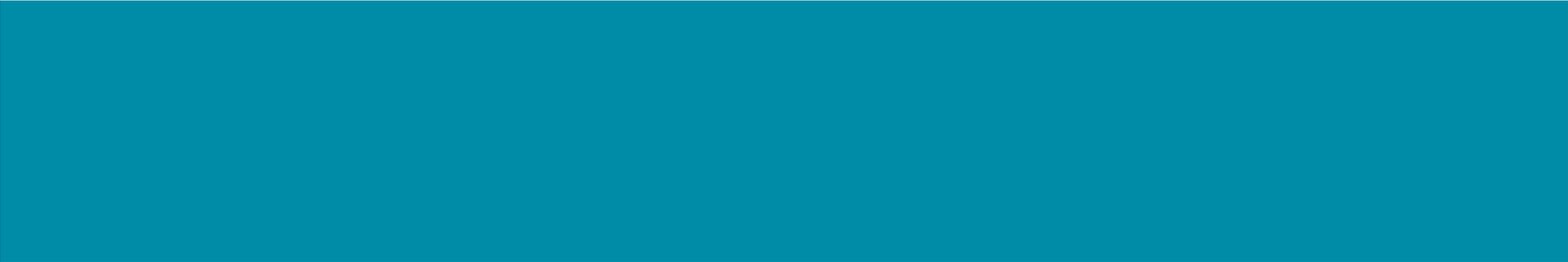


Morgan Lewis

together

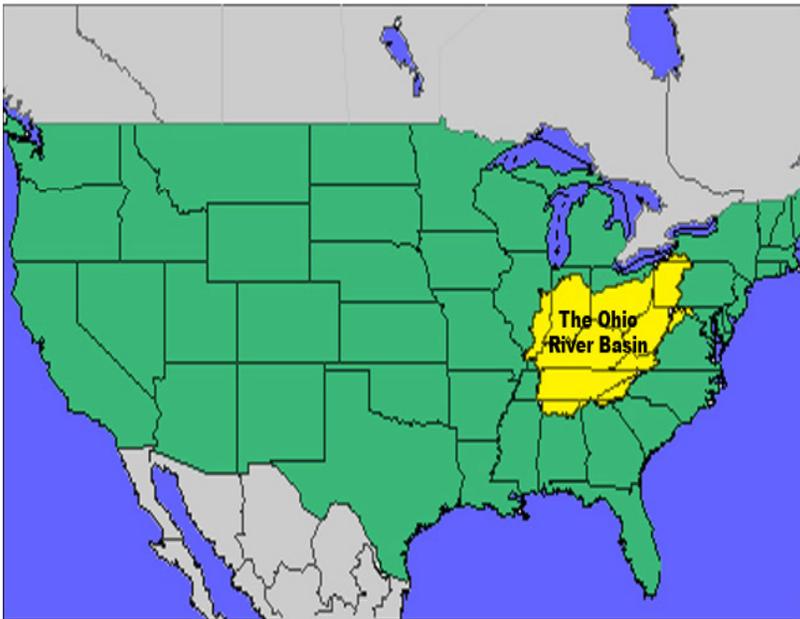
Update on ORSANCO Water Quality Programs

Ted Bosquez
(May 12, 2014)

- 
- BACKGROUND
 - WATER QUALITY PROGRAMS
 - POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS

Background

- 5% of US Mainland
(205,000 Square Miles)



- 25 Million Population
- All or Part of 14 States
- Highly Diverse Land Uses
 - Forest
 - Agriculture
 - Industrial Corridor
 - Urban Areas
 - Energy Development
 - Coal
 - Oil and Gas

Background

- 981 Miles from Pittsburgh to Cairo
- 49 Power Generating Plants
- Drinking Water Source for 5 million people (33 intakes)
- 120+ Species of Fish; Rich in Mussels
- 230 Million Tons of Cargo Transported Annually; 20 Locks and Dams
- Recreational Resource



Background

- Established 1948
- Ratified by Congressional Action
- Eight Signatory States (IL, IN, NY, KY, OH, PA, VA, WV)
- “Pledge Cooperation” to Abate Interstate Water Pollution in Ohio River Valley Compact District
- Guiding Principal: Wastes Discharged in One State Shall not Harm the Waters of Another State.
- Created ORSANCO to Coordinate and Implement

Background

- 3 / State (Gubernatorial Appointments); 3 Federal (Presidential Appointments)
- State EPA Directors are Ex-Officio Commissioners
- One Federal Commissioner is EPA Regional Administrator
- Budget: \$3 million (Federal and State Governments)
- Organization Staff – 22

Background

- Compact incorporated into laws of each member state and the US.
- ORSANCO can adopt rules, regulations, standards to abate interstate pollution.
- ORSANCO can issue orders through federal District courts.
- Mission and authorities do not address water quantity.

Water Quality Programs

- Regulatory
- Monitoring and Assessment
- Spill Detection / Response
- Clean Water Act / Safe Drinking Water Act Implementation
- Research
- Cooperative Projects

Pollution Control Standards

- Adopted by ORSANCO under Authority of the Compact
- Implemented by States through NPDES Permits
- Apply to the Ohio River Itself, not to Tributaries
- Reviewed every Three Years

Pollution Control Standards

- ORSANCO Initiated its Triennial Review in March 2014
- Public Comment Period Closed on May 9th
- Proposed Revisions Scheduled to be Presented for Public Review in Spring 2015.
- Adoption of Revisions Scheduled for October 2015

Pollution Control Standards

- Total Mercury Criterion
- Total Dissolved Solids
- E. Coli Criteria
- Human Health Temperature Criterion
- Aquatic Life Ammonia Criteria
- Mixing Zones for BCCs
- Numeric Nutrient Criteria



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