

Peer Review Plan

Date: 05/14/2013

Source Center: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
Ohio Water Science Center
6480 Doubletree Avenue
Columbus, OH 43229

Preliminary Title: An Analysis of Potential Water Availability from the Atwood, Leesville, and Tappan Lakes in the Muskingum River Watershed, Ohio.

Subject and Purpose: The purpose of this report is to describe analytical methods and present results of a study to assess potential water availability from the Atwood, Leesville, and Tappan lakes in the Muskingum River Watershed, Ohio. The analysis involved determining the amounts of water that potentially could be withdrawn and the resulting amounts of water that would flow downstream on a daily basis as a function of all combinations of three hypothetical target minimum flow-by amounts (1, 2, and 3 times current minimum instream flow targets) and three pumping capacities (1, 2, and 3 million gallons per day). Among other potential water uses, Atwood, Leesville, and Tappan Lakes may be used as a source of water for hydraulic fracturing. Because of the interest in hydraulic fracturing, this USGS report likely will be scrutinized by parties in the Muskingum Watershed both opposed to and in favor of hydraulic fracturing.

Impact of Dissemination: This information product is considered by the USGS to be Influential Scientific Information.

Timing of Review (Including Deferrals): March-April 2013. Deferrals are not anticipated at this time.

Manner of Review, Selection of Reviewers, and Nomination Process: Review will be by individual letters/memoranda/documents. USGS has selected the peer reviewers pursuant to requirements in Survey Manual chapter 502.3—Fundamental Science Practices: Peer Review (<http://www.usgs.gov/usgs-manual/500/502-3.html>).

Expected Number of Reviewers: Anticipates 2 peer reviewers.

Requisite Expertise: Hydrology and basic statistics.

Opportunity for Public Comment: No opportunity for public comment is formally incorporated for this product.

Agency Contact: peer_review_agenda@usgs.gov.