

WHEREAS, funds available to Arkansas communities under federal construction grants programs historically have been insufficient to meet municipal wastewater treatment needs; and

WHEREAS, the 1981 amendments to the federal Clean Water Act (the Act) have caused a reduction in the amount of federal funds available and have further shifted responsibilities to the municipalities by reducing the percentage of federal participation, effective October 1, 1984, for eligible portions of approved projects and declaring other portions ineligible for federal participation; and

WHEREAS, the ability of municipalities to secure the necessary capital to participate in the federal construction grants program is becoming increasingly limited; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Act require all publicly-owned treatment works to meet secondary requirements and more stringent limitations, if applicable, not later than July 1, 1988; and

WHEREAS, there is projected to be insufficient funds to provide treatment more stringent than secondary for all facilities as prescribed in the basin-wide plans developed under Section 303(e) of the Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 303(e) plans may require unnecessarily high degrees of treatment for some publicly-owned treatment works because of failure to recognize the influence of nonpoint sources, natural effects, and limitations in the developing science of wasteload allocation methodologies; and

WHEREAS, the use of federal construction grants to fund unnecessarily high degrees of treatment or to fund non-essential appurtenances for some municipalities jeopardizes the opportunities of other communities to gain compliance with the Act within the time period specified by the Congress.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission on Pollution Control and Ecology that the Department expeditiously prepare for public comment and for consideration by the Commission, modifications to existing policies and procedures governing the establishment of effluent limits and the use of construction grants which the Department finds necessary to more effectively utilize available funds for meaningful water quality improvements and for increasing the opportunity for all municipalities to gain compliance with provisions of the Act prior to July 1, 1988.

COMMISSIONERS

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

John P. Sutters
CHAIRMAN

SUBMITTED BY: Mayor Billy Free DATE PASSED 7-23-82