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To Whom It May Concern:

The Environmental Resources Coalition (ERC) is seeking municipalities that are interested in receiving an in-depth water quality study at a greatly reduced cost. ERC administers several programs and provides research and technical assistance to a wide variety of stakeholders concerned with water quality issues, regulations and protection efforts. We are a non-profit organization based in Jefferson City.

Our Ecological and Water Resources Assessment Project (EWRAP) delivers a science-based and balanced view to regulators, local governments and the general public to help them develop reasonable policies regarding water protection activities. Part of this project calls for us to provide Waste Load Allocation studies to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. These studies are used to establish effluent limits for waste water treatment facilities. They help communities evaluate infrastructure planning and expansion needs and, can also play a role in permit requirements.

During the last several months, we were able to use the EWRAP project to perform 22 'Use Attainability Analysis' for the DNR. These studies help the department determine how the state's waters are being used. That's important because some streams are being used for swimming, but others are not. Those that aren't being used for swimming may not require the same level of regulatory protection. Knowing the difference is what determines how a treatment facility disinfects its discharge. Knowing the facts about how a water is being used may save a community from costly and, possibly unnecessary, upgrades to disinfect.

Environmental Resources Coalition is offering to perform in-depth Waste Load Allocation studies for sewer districts and municipalities. ERC is able to share some of the financial burden and will provide our (selected) partners with partial funding for this comprehensive water quality study.

The EWRAP project is funded and administered through the U.S Environmental Protection Agency. If you have any questions about partnering with our organization, please feel free to call me at (573) 634-7078. I'd be happy to speak with you about the EWRAP project and how it could help you with your water quality efforts and regulatory responsibilities.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Bacon  
Director of Aquatic Services