



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN DISTRICT OFFICE



STEVEN E. CHESTER
DIRECTOR

August 12, 2008

Mr. James W. Ridgway, Executive Director
Alliance of Rouge Communities
C/O ECT
719 Griswold, Suite 1040
Detroit, MI 48226

Dear Mr. Ridgway:

**SUBJECT: Update of Rouge Watershed Management Plans
Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Watershed Permit
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)**

On August 4, 2008, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Water Bureau (WB), Southeast Michigan District Office, received a request for an extension of the November 1, 2008 deadline for submittal of updated Rouge watershed management plans from the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC). WB staff reviewed this request to determine compliance with the conditions of the MS4 General Permit No. MIG619000 and the individual Certificates of Coverage.

WB staff acknowledges the reasons for the extension request. Please submit the updated Rouge watershed management plans by **January 1, 2009**. In the meantime, WB staff expects the Rouge watershed permittees to continue work towards achieving the goals, objectives and actions in the current watershed plans. Please ensure that all actions committed to by individual communities in the watershed plans continue to be included in the storm water pollution prevention initiatives (SWPPIs) and that next steps and updated dates are also included where applicable, when a stated action has been completed.

Thank you for your continuing commitment to protecting and improving the water resources of the state. The work that you have done as part of the Rouge River Watershed is commendable. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Rouge subwatershed management plans or would like to arrange a meeting with WB to discuss implementation of the program, please contact Betsy Nightingale at 586-753-3794 or nightingalee@michigan.gov (for MDEQ Southeast District Communities) or Rachel Matthews at 517-780-7917 or matthewsr@michigan.gov (for MDEQ Jackson District Communities).

Sincerely,

Hae-Jin Yoon
District Supervisor
Southeast Michigan District Office
Water Bureau

cc: Betsy Nightingale, WB
Patricia Huddas, WB
Martin Hendges, WB
Bretton Joldersma, WB
Rachel Matthews, WB