Summary of New Statewide Water Quality Objectives for Bacteria

1) State Board approved new bacteria objectives at a hearing held on August 7, 2018; will become effective if approved by OAL and EPA (likely in late 2018 or early 2019)

2) New E. coli objective for inland surface waters (<1 ppt salinity) designated REC-1:
   A) Six week rolling geometric mean not to exceed 100 cfu per 100 milliliters (calculated weekly)
      \[\text{Note: current objective } = 126 \text{ cfu/100 mL as a 30-day rolling geomean}\]
   B) Statistical Threshold Value (STV) of 320 cfu/100 mL not to be exceeded by more than 10% of the samples collected in a calendar month (as a static calculation)
      \[\text{Note: current SSM for REC-1 (Tier A) } = 235 \text{ cfu/100 mL (as a rolling calculation)}\]
   C) New bacteria objectives supersede previous numeric objectives for REC-1 but do NOT supersede narrative objectives or site-specific objectives

3) Water quality assessment
   A) If a statistically-sufficient number of samples is available, generally not less than 5 samples in 6 weeks, only the geomean shall be used for 303(d) listing process
   B) If a statistically-sufficient number of samples is NOT available, then attainment of the water quality standard shall be determined based only on the STV

4) TMDLs
   A) Existing TMDLs remain in effect even where the new bacteria objectives apply
   B) Reg. Bd. may evaluate effectiveness of TMDLs in meeting the new objectives
   C) Natural source exclusion can only be authorized through a TMDL (or BPA) and only after all anthropogenic sources are identified, quantified and controlled

5) High Flow Suspensions or Seasonal Suspensions allowed (will require a UAA)

6) Limited REC-1 Designation (will require a UAA)
   A) Definition: "uses of water that support limited recreational activities involving body contact with water, where the activities are predominately limited by physical conditions and, as a result, body contact with water and ingestion of water is infrequent or insignificant"
   B) Will need a site-specific water quality objective to protect the LREC-1 use

7) Variances may be authorized consistent with federal regulations (40 CFR 131.14)