



December 14, 2012

Allen Freeman
8069 Amber Lane
Brecksville, OH 44141

Dear Mr. Freeman,

Thank you for contacting Gov. Kasich regarding the City of Aurora's application for Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP) funds to purchase the Aurora Golf Course and restore the Aurora Branch of the Chagrin River. Gov. Kasich received your email and asked me to reply on his behalf.

I see you have read the Agency's environmental assessment and I respectfully disagree with your characterization of it. Ohio EPA's employees are hard-working professionals who produce quality reports based on science and fact. This assessment is no exception and I stand by it and its authors.

In this instance, the golf course has indicated that if WRRSP funds are not awarded, the golf course will likely be sold. Ohio EPA believes it is better to protect this invaluable water resource than to allow it to be potentially further impacted by unknown and controllable development activities at the site.

Your comments have been forwarded to the Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance at Ohio EPA, which administers the WRRSP at Ohio EPA. Your comments and any others the Agency received before the Dec. 14, 2012, deadline today will be considered prior to my final decision on this application. Any decision I make may be appealed to the Environmental Review Appeals Commission (ERAC); more information on ERAC appeals can be found at erac.ohio.gov/.

If you have additional questions, please contact Kristopher Weiss in Ohio EPA's Public Interest Center at (614) 644-2160 or Kristopher.weiss@epa.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,



Scott J. Nally
Director