



## Ohio River Basin Trading Program: Quarterly Update

**August 11, 2010  
Public Webcast**

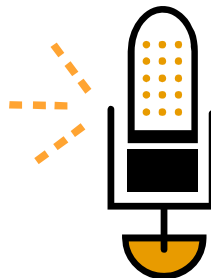
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Project Manager  
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### Webcast Recording Details

#### Webcast Recording URL:

<https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/epripremier/view>

Recording ID: **TradingQ310**



## Project Highlights

### Last Webcast:

- Program Organizational Structure
- Stakeholder Engagement Update
- Interstate MOU
- MOU Executed with USDA & EPA: Ecosystem Services
- Atmospheric Deposition: Linking Air Quality and Watershed Models

### This Webcast:

- General Project Updates
- Summary of Outreach to Agriculture
- Collaborator: Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

## Project Collaboration



**Electric Power Research Institute**

**American Electric Power**

**American Farmland Trust**

**Ohio Farm Bureau Federation**

**Hoosier Energy**

**Hunton & Williams**

**Kieser & Associates**

**Miami Conservancy District**

**ORSANCO**

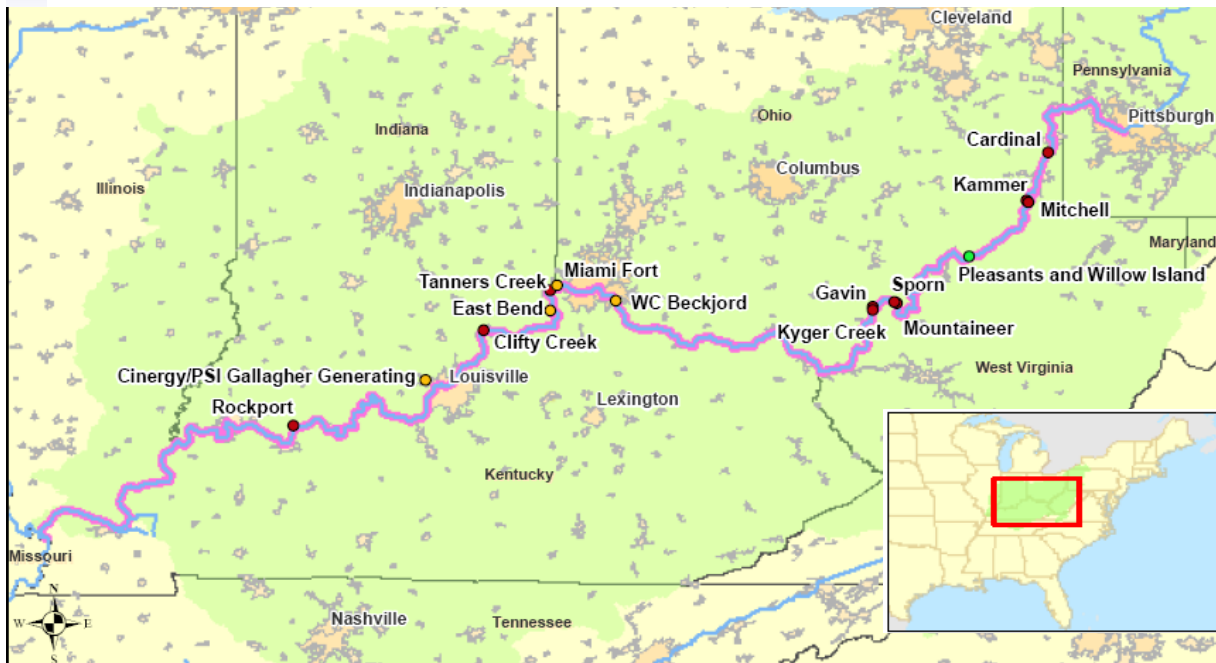
**Tennessee Valley Authority**

**Duke Energy**

**EPA**

**USDA**

## Project Area



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## Algal Blooms in Ohio

Thursday, July 29, 2010 Farm & Diary

### Hot, humid weather causing unhealthy algal blooms in Ohio ponds, lakes

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Harmful algal blooms, like those affecting Grand Lake St. Marys, are popping up in ponds and small lakes throughout Ohio, and [Ohio State University Extension](#) educators are encouraging landowners to protect their family, pets and livestock.

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## Algal Blooms in Ohio

August 6, 2010 Ohio EPA News Release

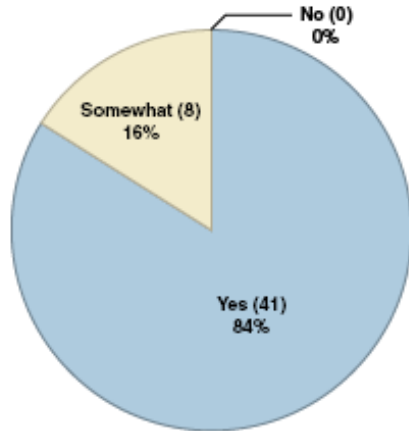
At this time, the state recommends people do not contact the water, do not allow pets to contact the water and do not take boats onto the lake. Additionally, Ohio EPA urges people not to eat fish caught in Grand Lake St. Marys.

## Algal Blooms in Ohio

- **3 more state parks issue warnings on toxic algae**
- Tuesday, August 10, 2010 11:24 PM
- By [Spencer Hunt](#) and [Jim Woods](#)  
**The Columbus Dispatch**
- Fear of toxic algae spread to three more state parks today.
- Lake Hope State Park (Vinton County)
- Dillon State Park (Muskingum County)
- Shawnee State Park (Scioto County)

## Project Vision

To improve water quality by establishing water quality trading as an economically, socially, and ecologically viable approach in the Ohio River Basin.

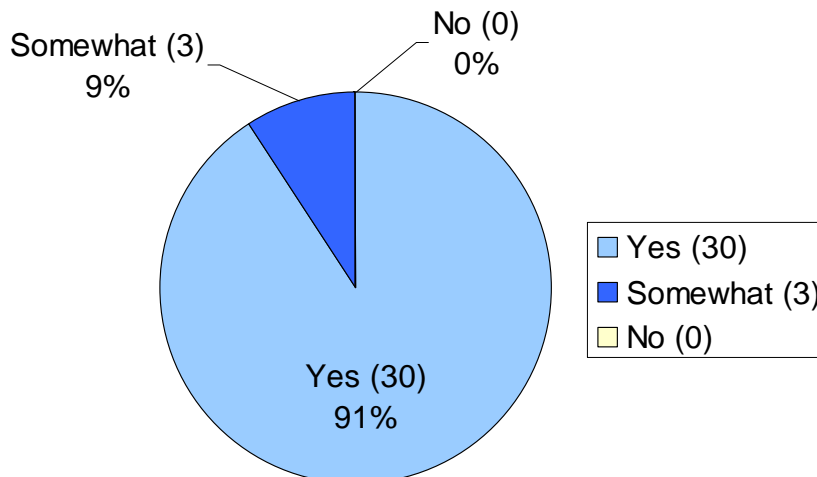


The draft vision statement resonates with me and I will be interested in engaging with this effort (tracking, participating, supporting)?

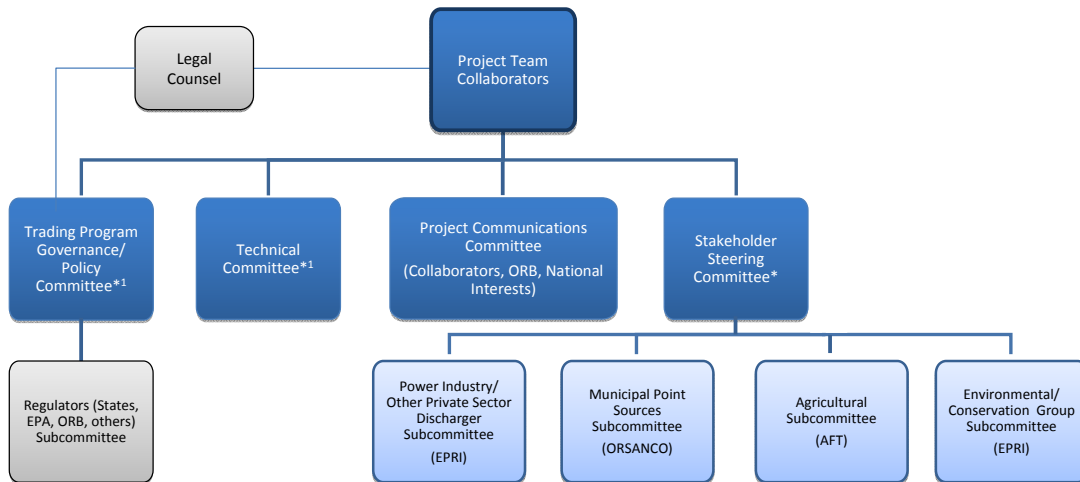
### Polling Question

## Polling Question

The draft vision statement resonates with me and I will be interested in engaging (tracking, participating, supporting) with this effort?



## Organization Structure - Draft



\*(Minimum of one member of each subcommittee + collaborators)  
¹ MCD participation

## Interstate MOU in Ohio River Basin

- Purpose: To support the development of an interstate water quality trading program for the Ohio River Basin.
- States Invited: Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee and West Virginia.
- This MOU provides a framework for the Parties to work together toward their shared goals of restoring and protecting water quality in the ORB.

**UPDATE: Presented to States in June  
Still Circulating For Input**

# Project Website Revamp

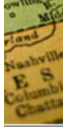

- Overview
- Funding Opportunities
- Quarterly Updates
- Credit Stacking
- Watershed Management
- Related EPRI
- Project Collaboration
- In the Media
- Project Schedule
- Reference Sheet

## Project Content

EPRI supports the development of the program. At the end, we invite feedback and suggestions on how to feel free to send us your comments.

For Technical or

## The Ohio River Basin Trading Project: Designing for Agriculture



**What Is Water Quality Trading?**  
Regulatory agencies are responsible for setting water quality standards that will ensure safe, clean water for the benefit of the public and the environment. Commercial operations such as manufacturing, power plants, industrial processes, and wastewater treatment facilities hold permits issued by regulatory agencies that allow for appropriate discharges into water bodies (rivers, lakes, streams). Water quality trading (WQT) is a market-based approach in which permitted dischargers are allowed to meet their permit limits by purchasing water quality improvement credits from another source.

In a water quality trading program, non-regulated discharges, typically non-point sources, may voluntarily generate and sell water quality credits to permitted dischargers (point sources). Farmers, considered non-point sources, participate in water quality trading by implementing agreed-upon conservation practices to generate water quality credits that they can sell.

Through water quality trading, the permitted facilities have flexibility to cost-effectively meet their environmental requirements while sparing rate payers and utility customers higher bills. Farmers receive the money they need to implement and maintain new conservation practices.

**Many agricultural producers in the Ohio River Basin already know about the benefits of using conservation practices in their operations. Some of those advantages include better soil, improved water quality, and increased crop yields.**

program, once trading begins, to optimize the water quality benefits and

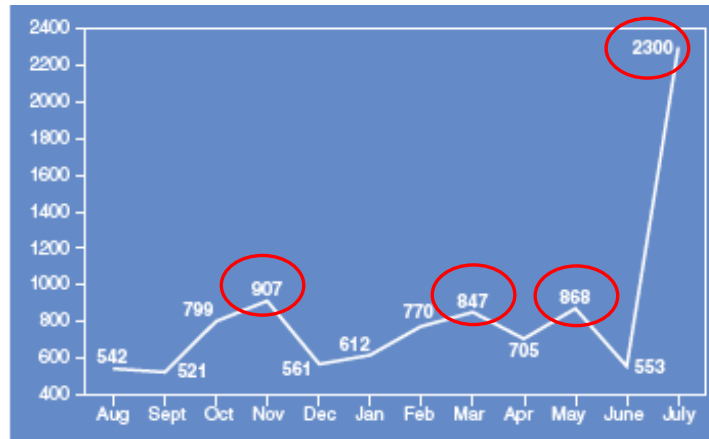
download directly from EPA. The model is used for decision support in watershed management and for regulatory activ-

# Stakeholder Outreach

- Agriculture
- Wastewater Treatment Plants
- Power Plants
- States
- Environmental Groups

Primary focus is developing communication process and forming steering committees.

## Website Activity



## Agriculture Outreach

1. Bluffton, IN (CTIC, SWCD, Indiana Farm Bureau), March 2010
  2. Terre Haute, IN (CTIC, SWCD, Indiana Farm Bureau), March 2010
  3. Columbus, OH (Host OH DNR & OFSWCD), July 2010  
See Lawrence Burdell, President OFSWCD said about the meeting: [www.youtube.com/user/ofswcd](http://www.youtube.com/user/ofswcd)
  4. Columbus, OH August 26<sup>th</sup>, Focus on NRCS Nutrient Trading Tool. (Host OH Farm Bureau).
- Upcoming: Georgetown, OH. October 3-4 2010



## Upcoming Conferences

- Ohio River Basin Consortium for Research and Education: October, Cincinnati, <http://www.ohio.edu/orbcre/>
- Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO), Nov 17th, Columbus
- Ohio Water and Environment Association, Nov 18th, Blue Ash, Ohio
- Agricultural Drainage Water Management Systems Task Force (ADMS), ARS: September 7th , Chicago
- IWA/WEF [www.Nutrient2011.org](http://www.Nutrient2011.org), January, 2011. Miami.

## Quick Summary of Ag input

- What's in it for me?
- Concern over future regulations
- What type of "ag" are we talking about?
  - Livestock, crops, small farms, large farms
- How big do the projects (BMPs) need to be?
- Keep things local
- Role of leased land
- Role of SWCD in program:
  - Verify BMPs are in place
  - Interface with farmers
  - Keeping things local
  - Funding!

## Collaborator In the Spotlight

### Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

Larry M. Antosch, Ph.D.  
Senior Director,  
Program Innovation and Environmental Policy



# Ohio Farm Bureau Federation



## Who Are We?

- Ohio's largest general farm organization
- Grass-roots member-based
- Federation of 87 county Farm Bureaus
- Volunteer board and committees
- State Board
- AFBF



## Our History

- 1919 – OFBF Founded
  - Rural electrification
  - Group purchasing of farm supplies
  - Marketing of farm commodities
- 1926 – Farm Bureau Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
- 1955 – Renamed Nationwide Insurance



## Vision

*Forge a **partnership** between **farmers and consumers** that meets consumers needs, addresses public expectations and ensures agricultural prosperity in a global marketplace.*



## Core Values

- Integrity and honesty
- Grassroots involvement
- Promoting agriculture
- Member advocacy
- Teamwork



# Issues

Ohio Farm Bureau addresses a variety of issues including:

- Environment
- Taxes
- Trade
- Livestock
- Energy
- Land Use
- Property Rights
- Wildlife



## How does the Farm Bureau decide what position to take?



# Policy Development

The *process* Farm Bureau uses to identify and address issues of *member* concern

- County
- State
- National



# Conservation and Market Based Incentives - 533

- Support the development of market-based incentives, such as **pollution permit trading** as an alternative to government prescriptions.
- Support creating a **nutrient trading program** across Ohio. The trading program to be administered by a joint board of Soil and Water representatives in the affected counties.



## Conservation and Market Based Incentives - 533

- Believe that **pollution permit trading** is a viable approach to implement the requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act and Federal Clean Air Act. We believe the United States Environmental Protection Agency should **outline** the general guidelines of pollution permit trading but allow **local** entities to determine the management system which best fits its needs.



## What is OFBF's Interest?

- Supported by our members (policy)
- New opportunities for agriculture
- Farmer input important
- Eliminate or reduce need for regulations
- Win<sup>4</sup>



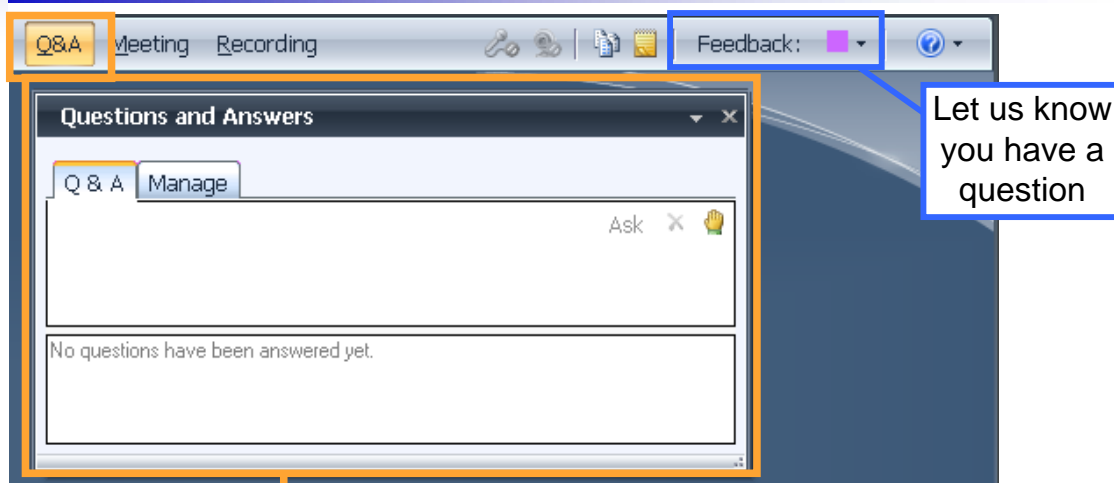
# What is OFBF's Role?

- Working in collaboration with American Farmland Trust
- Assist in outreach efforts to Ohio River Basin farmers
- Provide the opportunity to shape multi-state nutrient trading program



## Questions & Answers:

If you have a question during the webcast you can...



Type your question to the presenters using the Q&A Feature



## Next Quarter Activities

- Finalize Organizational Structure & Publish
- Continue stakeholder outreach
- Continue watershed modeling
- Stakeholder Specific Pages on Website

## Staying Connected

- Save the Date, Quarter Webcast:
  - November 11 (Tentative), 2010
- Add Yourself to Our Contact List
- Send Comments
  - E-mail: [Ohiorivertrading@epri.com](mailto:Ohiorivertrading@epri.com)
  - [www.epri.com/ohiorivertrading](http://www.epri.com/ohiorivertrading)

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