OHIO RIVER VALLEY
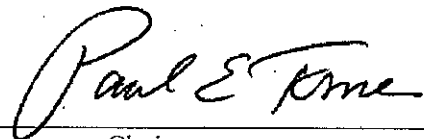# WATER SANITATION COMMISSION

RESOLUTION 2-11

DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTERSTATE WATER QUALITY TRADING PROGRAM FOR THE OHIO RIVER BASIN

WHEREAS: the States of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Kentucky, Virginia and West Virginia are signatory to the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Compact; and

WHEREAS: the Compact pledges the states to faithful cooperation in the control of future pollution, and the abatement of existing pollution, from the waters of the Ohio River Basin; and

WHEREAS: excessive nutrient loading has been identified as a water quality problem within the Ohio River Basin; and

WHEREAS: the sources and causes of nutrient loading are many and varied; and

WHEREAS: the States recognize the need for additional mechanisms to facilitate nutrient reductions, including water quality trading; and

WHEREAS: water quality trading offers potential cost and energy savings in nutrient reduction; and

WHEREAS: trading among states may allow for a more effective use of this tool; and

WHEREAS: core aspects of the trading program need to be developed, including the framework and rules for interstate trading, the baseline for generating tradable credits, the ratio for such credits, and the sources entitled to trade; and

WHEREAS: development of an interstate trading program requires discussion of these core aspects of the trading program by the States in a coordinated and collaborative manner.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission endorses the development of an interstate water quality trading program for the Ohio River Basin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission encourages its member States to engage in discussions leading to the development of an interstate water quality trading program, and also endorses participation by other interested States in the Basin.

Adopted by action of the Commissioners of the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission on this, the 9th day of June 2011.

_____
Chairman