



## OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR TIM BURCHETT

### Department of Engineering & Public Works

Codes Administration • Fire Prevention • Fleet Services • Highway Maintenance • Planning & Development  
Soil Conservation • Solid Waste • Stormwater Management • Traffic Engineering

May 5, 2017

Ms. Tisha Calabrese-Benton  
Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation  
Tennessee Tower - 2nd Floor  
312 Rosa L. Parks Ave.  
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Ms. Benton:

Knox County, Tennessee has been recognized as a Qualifying Local Program (QLP) since March 8, 2013, through the pilot program initiated by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). We are grateful to TDEC for your support of our stormwater management program.

During the time we have participated in the program, we have continually sought to fully meet the conditions of our MS4 permit, while at the same time taking every reasonable step to protect the interests of all of our constituent groups, including area homeowners, the land development community, and our professional partners at local utilities, other local governments, and other public institutions.

As we consider how best to continue these efforts, it has become evident to us that the QLP model is not the ideal framework for Knox County. The extensive number of 303(d) listed streams, a high level of development activity, and the density of existing housing stock creates a difficult regulatory environment. We believe utilizing the concurrent jurisdiction approach that is more widely observed across the state will better ensure our ability to meet the requirements of our MS4 permit.

Accordingly, please consider this as our official notice of withdrawal from the QLP program, effective June 9, 2017. Starting June 12, 2017, we will refer any applicant seeking coverage under the state's Construction General Permit to the Knoxville Field Office of TDEC.

We appreciate our professional partnership with everyone at TDEC, and thank-you for all you do on behalf of the citizens of Tennessee.

Tisha Calabrese Benton

May 5, 2017

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dwight Van de Vate". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "V".

Dwight Van de Vate

Senior Director

CC: Mayor Burchett  
Dean Rice, COS  
Jim Snowden, Chief Engineer  
Chris Granju, P.E.  
Brad Warren, P.E.