

## **Your Input is Important** to a Successful State Water Quality Standards (WQS) Variance



Discharger and state determine that a WQS variance is needed to improve water quality.

The state proposes a WQS variance, and requests public comment on the WQS variance and supporting documentation.

The state holds public hearings and obtains public input. If proceeding, state adopts the WQS WQS variance after considering public input. The state submits the WQS variance after package to the work was also becomes the work was al

The state submits the WQS variance package to EPA for

The state reevaluates the WQS variance, with public input, to see if more can be done to improve water quality.

WQS VARIANCE PROCESS



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## OPPORTUNITIES TO PROVIDE INPUT

Collaborate with the state, such as participating in a workgroup, and

- ask:

   why a WQS
   variance is
   needed and
   how it will
   improve
   water quality
- how long water quality improvements will take

Review the documentation and analyses.

Provide written comments.

Ask how the state will use your feedback to refine the WOS variance.

Participate in the public hearings.

**Provide input on:** 

- the goals for water quality improvement
- the discharger requirements
- the timeframe for achieving goals and requirements.

Read the adopted WQS variance and the response to comments document.

Ask that progress reports and monitoring results be made publicly available so that you can track water quality improvements.

Provide your input if there are other activities that could help improve water quality.

