

Your Input is Important to a Successful Tribal Water Quality Standards (WQS) Variance



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

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

The authorized
Tribe holds
public
hearings and
obtains public
input.

If proceeding, the authorized authorized Tribe adopts the WQS variance after considering public input. The authorized authorized Tribe submits the WQS variance package to public input. EPA for review.

If approved by EPA, the WQS variance is implemented.

The authorized
Tribe 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 authorized Tribe, 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 authorized Tribe will use your feedback to refine the WQS 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.

