

Don Arnosti

Thank you for taking public comments on site specific standards for sulfate to protect wild rice. My comments are as follows:

- * The science is complicated and involves many factors, as MPCA points out, therefore a very conservative approach should be taken for any site specific standards. The standard applied should be at least 2X that which is calculated to be protective to take the margin of error in knowledge into account.

- * Once sulfates are released into waterways, they are resident and damaging to the system for many years if not indefinitely. It is therefore imperative that standards be set very conservatively to assure wild rice in the future.

- * Data should be considered which justify a standard more conservative than the current 10ppm.

- * Site specific monitoring and wild rice production data must be at least a decade in length to be used for any site specific standard to account for "natural" (not understood) variations in wild rice production.