



**Sunset Review Committee
Testimony on the Water Advisory Council
Provided by ODNR Chief of the Division of Soil & Water Resources Michael Bailey
December 14, 2015**

Good afternoon Chairman Brown and members of the Sunset Review Committee. My name is Mike Bailey and I am the Chief of the Division of Soil and Water Resources within the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). Thank you for giving me the opportunity to present testimony on the Water Advisory Council for your consideration.

Purpose of the Water Advisory Council

The Ohio Water Advisory Council was established by statute in 1984 for the purpose of providing guidance and making recommendations to ODNR's Division of Soil and Water Resources in matters related to ground water resources evaluation and development, water supply planning, the identification of flood risks and the management of development in flood hazard.

Composition of the Water Advisory Council

The Council consists of seven members with an interest in water management and expertise in areas such as dam safety, surface water, groundwater and flood plain management. Not more than four of the members can be of the same political party. Members are appointed by the governor for a two-year term.

Water Advisory Council Summary and Recommendation

The last meeting of the Ohio Water Advisory Council was July 10, 2010. Historically, the council provided little guidance or recommendations to the Division on policy matters relating to water resources, but rather used their meetings to receive departmental updates from Division staff. Therefore, ODNR recommends that the Ohio Water Advisory Council be sunset by the Sunset Review Committee.

ODNR remains committed to maintaining an open line of communication with our water-related stakeholders to ensure the conservation, protection, and enhancement of Ohio's water resources.

Members of the Committee, thank you again for giving me the opportunity to testify today. I would be happy to take any questions that you may have at this time.