

Response to Public Comment:
One Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Indicator Bacteria in
Cotton Bayou Tidal

| Tracking Number | Date Received | Affiliation of Commenter | Summary of Request or Comment | Summary of TCEQ Action, or Explanation |
|-----------------|---------------|--|---|---|
| 001 | 11/14/23 | Thomas Carroll, Cotton Bayou watershed area business owner | The commenter stated that he owns a mobile home park and wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) in the Cotton Bayou watershed. He expressed concern on how the approval of this TMDL would affect his WWTF's government regulation. He requested more information on how this TMDL will affect his WWTF permit. | <p>TCEQ appreciates inquiries from stakeholders for this TMDL and associated implementation efforts.</p> <p>The goal of the implementation of the TMDL will be to decrease the concentration of indicator bacteria (Enterococci) in Cotton Bayou Tidal, as the most recent assessment indicates the assessment unit exceeds the criterion used to evaluate attainment of the primary contact recreation 1 use in saltwater (35 colony forming units of Enterococci per 100 milliliters).</p> <p>While additional flow from new dischargers or amended, higher flows from existing dischargers could result in an increase to the final TMDL allocation for the assessment unit, the new allocation would still be set to meet the applicable water quality standard for the primary contact recreation 1 use.</p> <p>This TMDL calculates load allocations based on future growth. This calculation should prevent significant permit discharge regulation changes for WWTFs, if the WWTFs are in compliance with the terms of their current or future permits. While the TMDL includes an allocation for existing WWTFs in the watershed, it will not change the discharge limits of those facilities.</p> <p>No changes were made to the TMDL document based on this comment.</p> |