

# Peer Review Plan

**Date:** 6/27/12

**Source Center:** U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)  
Kansas Water Science Center  
4821 Quail Crest Place  
Lawrence, KS, 66049

**Title:** Fate and Transport of Cyanobacteria and Associated Toxins and Taste-and-Odor Compounds from Upstream Reservoir Releases in the Kansas River, Kansas, September and October, 2011

**Subject and Purpose:** Cyanobacteria cause a multitude of water-quality concerns, including the potential to produce toxins and taste-and-odor compounds. Toxins and taste-and-odor compounds may cause substantial economic and public health concerns and are of particular interest in lakes, reservoirs, and rivers that are used for drinking-water supply, recreation, or aquaculture. The Kansas River is a primary source of drinking water for about 800,000 people in northeastern Kansas. Water released from Milford Lake to the Kansas River during a toxic cyanobacterial bloom in late August 2011 prompted concerns about cyanobacteria and associated toxins and taste-and-odor compounds in downstream drinking-water supplies. During September and October 2011, the USGS, in cooperation with local and state agencies, conducted a study to characterize the extent and duration of the transport of cyanobacteria and associated compounds from Milford Lake and other upstream reservoirs to the Kansas River. This study is one of the first to quantitatively document the transport of cyanobacteria and associated compounds during reservoir releases and improves understanding of the fate and transport of cyanotoxins and taste-and-odor compounds downstream from reservoirs. The publication will be released as a USGS Scientific Investigations Report.

**Impact of Dissemination:** This product is considered by the USGS to be Influential Scientific Information.

**Timing of Review (Including Deferrals):** April - May 2012. Deferrals are not anticipated at this time.

**Manner of Review, Selection of Reviewers, and Nomination Process:** Peer review will be by individual letters. USGS will select the peer reviewers pursuant to requirements in Survey Manual chapter 502.3 –Fundamental Science Practices: Peer Review (<http://www.usgs.gov/usgs-manual/500/502-3.html>).

**Expected Number of Reviewers:** Anticipate 2 peer reviewers.

**Requisite Expertise:** Harmful algal blooms, limnology, phycology, surface-water hydrology.

**Opportunity for Public Comment:** No, the opportunity for public comment is not formally incorporated into the USGS peer review process.

**Agency Contact:** [peer\\_review\\_agenda@usgs.gov](mailto:peer_review_agenda@usgs.gov).