



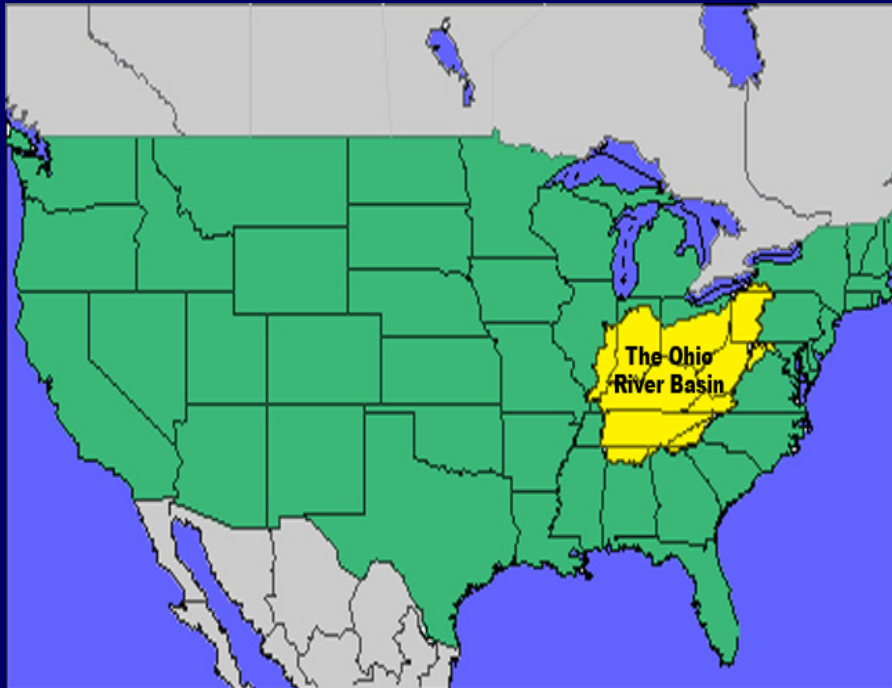
# OHIO RIVER VALLEY WATER SANITATION COMMISSION – (ORSANCO)





# The Ohio River Valley

- 5% of US mainland  
(205,000 square miles)



- 25 million population
- All or part of 14 states
- Highly diverse land uses
  - Forest
  - Agriculture
  - Industrial Corridor
  - Urban areas
  - Energy Development
    - Coal
    - Oil and Gas



# Ohio River Facts

- 981 miles from Pittsburgh to Cairo
- Drinking water source for 5 million people (33 intakes)
- 120+ species of fish; rich in mussels
- 230 million tons of cargo transported annually; 20 locks and dams
- Recreational water resource
- 49 power generating plants





# Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Compact

- Established in 1948
- Ratified by Congressional action
- Eight signatory states (IL, IN, NY, KY, OH, PA, VA, WV)
- "Pledge cooperation" to abate interstate water pollution in Ohio River valley compact district
- Created ORSANCO to coordinate and implement





# Commission

- 3/state (gubernatorial appointments); 3 federal (Presidential appointments)
- State EPA director ex-officio
- One federal is EPA Regional Administrator
- Budget: \$5 million (\$3.5 million from states and US EPA)
- Staff – 26





# Program Areas

- Regulatory – establish Ohio River Pollution Control Standards
- Monitoring (lots of it) & Assessment
- Spill Detection/Response (monitoring, communications)
- Clean Water Act/Safe Drinking Water Act implementation coordination (TMDLs, NPDES, etc...)
- Applied Research (pharmaceuticals, mercury)
- Public Involvement Programs (volunteer monitoring, River Sweep, mobile aquarium)

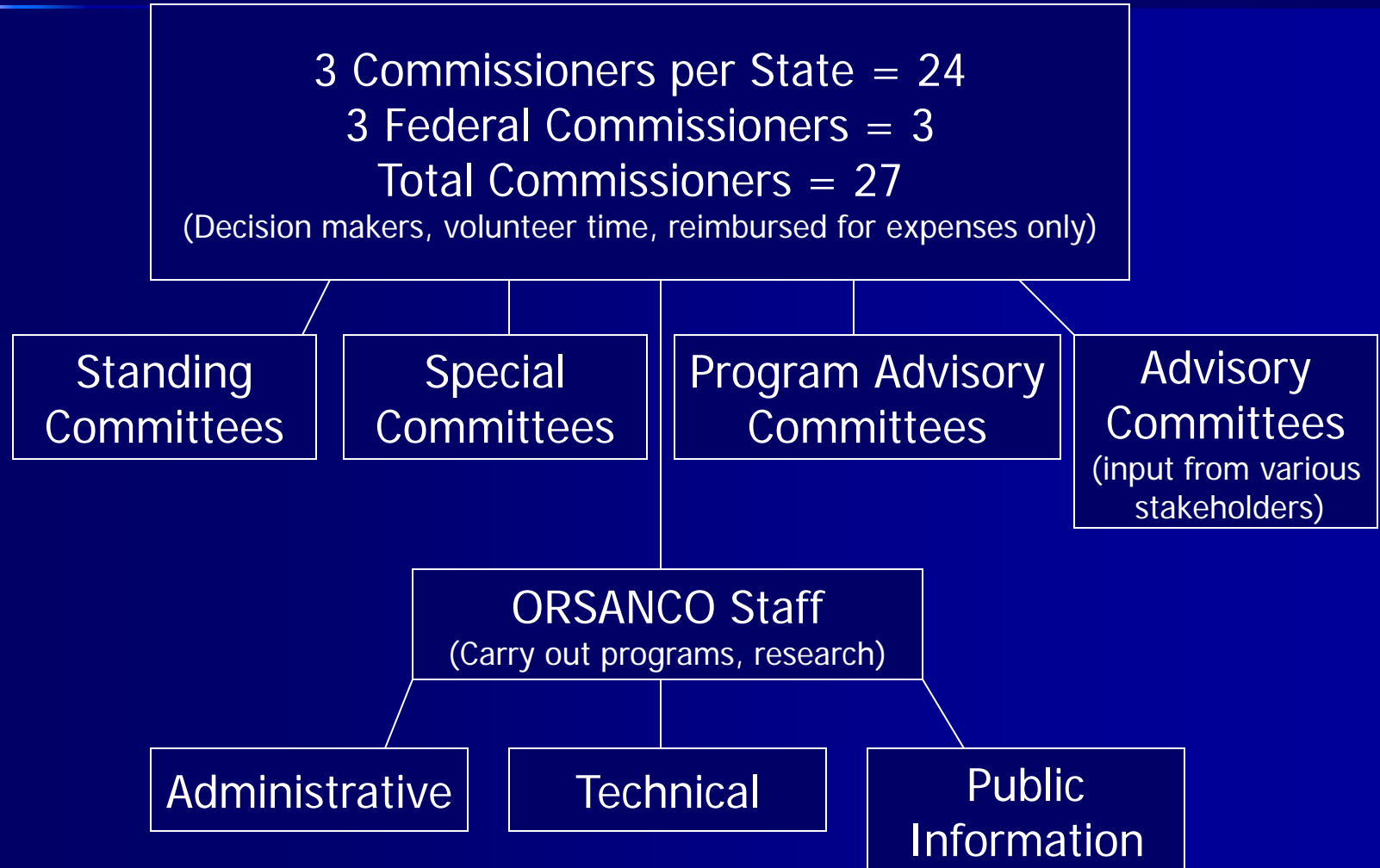


# Success through Collaboration

- Key to success is through Committee Collaboration
- ORSANCO process—Committee driven-Committee dependent
- Committees comprised of representatives from states, US EPA, USGS, USACE, etc.
- Committee of river user sectors: drinking water, POTWs, electric power, etc...provide valuable input into ORSANCO's programs



# Table of Organization







# What has been made possible by this approach?

- Monitoring – one program, one assessment; cost effective and technically consistent
- Water Quality Standards – provides baseline
- Highly practical programs; spill detection system, source water assessment
- Broad support – states and river users participate
- Minimize duplication of effort
- Responsiveness to emerging needs



# Future Issues

- Development of Nutrient Criteria
- Apportioning nutrient loads among wastewater discharges and agricultural runoff
- Defining role in interstate water resources management
- Emerging Contaminants
- Climate Change
- Energy



[www.orsanco.org](http://www.orsanco.org)

5735 Kellogg Ave.,  
Cincinnati, OH