**MILESTONE WORKGROUP CONFERENCE CALL**

**December 12, 2012 3-4:30 pm**

**Conference Call Phone Number:** 866-299-3188, code 215-814-5422

<https://epa.connectsolutions.com/mwg/>

**AGENDA**

**Welcome/Confirm Call Participants**

* Thank you to all jurisdictions for your participation in the one-on-one calls with Jeff Sweeney and Matt Johnston.
* Reminder to group that in addition to submitting numbers to NEIEN that programmatic milestone updates are due December 31 every year. Updates for each milestone are to be entered into the Comments/Status Update column in the programmatic milestones Word document. If there is already information in that column either remove and update the information or if building upon previously supplied information please clearly mark the date to distinguish the new information from previous information provided.
* Milestones dates that have past but have not been completed should include updated dates in the status update.
* Any changes or updates to a milestone itself should be clearly marked using track changes or another method to signal that a milestone has been altered.
* Programmatic milestone progress should be e-mailed to your state WIP lead with a cc to Suzanne Trevena, Katherine Antos and Carin Bisland (trevena.suzanne@epa.gov, antos.katherine@epa.gov, bisland.carin@epa.gov)
* If you are posting your programmatic milestone progress on-line please send EPA the link to your state website, otherwise EPA may pdf and post the programmatic updates submitted.
* On a future call we will discuss the outline for the milestone progress sheets used for the EC meeting and on Chesapeake Stat to outline interim progress for both load reductions and programmatic milestones. Please e-mail me with any ideas/suggestions that you have now.
* FYI for jurisdictions: Anticipate that the information in the status update may be discussed on a future quarterly call with the EPA and jurisdiction senior manager if there is a question/concern with progress in a particular milestone or sector.

**Presentation on Chesapeake Bay Indicators**

* Nita provided a presentation on the Chesapeake Bay Program indicators featured on the ChesapeakeBay.net website. She highlighted differences between the various Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Sediment indicators (using N as the example) and the hydrology used in each type.
* There was a request for an adjustment of terminology under Flow-Adjusted Concentration Trends to clearly mark where this site is referring to concentrations vs. loads.
	+ This change has been made.
* Request for EPA to include in the description that loads will vary with the flow levels.
	+ This change has been made.
* EPA to provide the ChesapeakeStat links to the jurisdiction-specific reducing pollution indicator charts.
	+ These charts have not yet been posted to ChesapeakeStat. EPA is awaiting the final information from a contractor. Once these charts are posted, EPA will share the ChesStat links.
* EPA uses the most up to date information possible for the indicators however it is not feasible at this time to have “real-time” flow data. Loads to the Bay are monitored and that information is updated as it becomes available.
* Concern was raised that non-wastewater data is evaluated in progress runs based on an average hydrology and the point source data is simulated in the model using annual hydrology. These were prior decisions made by the Chesapeake Bay partnership. This discussion topic will be covered in a future milestone workgroup call. This call should include the wastewater technical workgroup in order to address these concerns and the impact any changes would have on progress runs.
* EPA will provide a definition for the terms “flow adjusted” and for “flow normalized”.
	+ Currently awaiting response from USGS. This will be provided as soon as it is available.

**Discussion of developing/evaluating milestones**

* **Recap the discussion topics from the individual jurisdiction calls on Milestone evaluation**
* **Seeking decision on development/evaluation of future milestones**
* **Discussion of jurisdiction feedback on evaluation of the 2012-2013 milestones**
* There remains concerns that need to be addressed before jurisdictions feel comfortable making a decision on milestone evaluation. EPA will answer some of the questions raised on the December call which should help jurisdictions in determining how to move forward in deciding how to evaluate 2012-2013 and future milestones.
* **Question 1:** Can EPA provide the projected land use prior to the development of the draft milestones for 2014-2015? Will these land use projections be available in MAST/VAST/CAST? Jurisdictions requested projected land use 6 months prior to draft milestone development.
	+ EPA can provide the projected land use for 2013, 2014 and 2015 in the summer of 2013 and intend to include the new census data in these projected land uses.
	+ EPA can provide the 2013-2015 land uses into MAST/VAST/CAST by mid summer 2013.
* **Question 2**: Do the projected land use conditions assume certain levels of controls are already in place on urban lands? Does it assume stormwater practices are on the ground in accordance with state laws or are there no assumed controls in place for projected urban land?
	+ EPA does not assume any level of BMP implementation already on the ground. New urban land would be “pre-BMP” land uses. States would continue to submit implementation of stormwater practices and update their records of historical stormwater BMPs in 2014 and 2015 progress.

Next steps on Milestone Evaluation Topic

* EPA answers the questions above,
* EPA will schedule an additional group conference call for further discussion. No individual calls were requested for further clarification.
* On January conference call, EPA will ask jurisdictions to make a decision on the 3 milestone evaluation questions as outlined in the December 12, 2012 presentation (<http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/19029/>) and included below in the meeting notes.
	+ Doodle poll to be sent in early January.
* Any decisions made by jurisdictions are only applicable towards milestones thru 2017. Any decisions for development and evaluation of milestones beyond 2017 will be re-evaluated at a later date. This decision does not indicate jurisdiction agreement with a 2025 land use for either milestones or the Phase III WIPs. Those decisions will be made at a later date.

**Milestone Evaluation Questions to the Jurisdictions**

2013 Milestones

* + What background conditions should CBP use to measure progress towards 2013 milestones in 2013?
		- Place 2013 Progress BMPs on 2010 background conditions.
		- Place 2013 Progress BMPs on 2013 background conditions.

2015 and 2017 Milestones Planning

* + What background conditions should jurisdictions use to set milestones at the beginning of these milestone periods (in 2013 and 2015 respectively)?
		- Use 2013 projected background conditions to set 2015 Milestone goals. (Similarly, use 2015 conditions to set 2017 goals.)
		- Use 2015 projected background conditions to set 2015 Milestone goals. (Similarly, use 2017 conditions to set 2017 goals.)
		- Use 2010 projected background conditions to set 2015 Milestone goals. (Similarly, use 2010 conditions to set 2017 goals.)

2015 and 2017 Milestones Assessment

* + What background conditions should that CBP use to measure progress towards the 2015 Milestones and 2017 Milestones?
		- Place 2015 BMPs on 2013 background conditions. (Similarly, place 2017 BMPs on 2015 background conditions.)
		- Place 2015 BMPs on 2015 background conditions. (Similarly, place 2017 BMPs on 2017 background conditions.)
		- Place 2015 BMPs on 2010 background conditions. (Similarly, place 2017 BMPs on 2010 background conditions.)

**Open Discussion of additional topics**

* Jurisdictions requested a one-time extension of the programmatic milestone status update from December 31, 2012 to January 15, 2013. EPA will check on this request and reply no later than Wednesday December 19, 2012.

**Summarize follow up actions**

* Send follow up message on the programmatic milestones submittal
* Provide definitions requested
* Answer questions posed during call
* Schedule another group call in January to continue discussion and to request decision from jurisdictions.
* EPA will reply no later than December 19, to let jurisdictions know if EPA will extend the due date to January 15 for the interim progress status of the 2012-2013 milestones.