



**Regulatory & Environmental Affairs Division
West Virginia Department of Agriculture**

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Walt Helmick
Commissioner

Herma Johnson
Director

April 9, 2013

Rich Batiuk
Associate Director for Science, Analysis and Implementation
EPA Chesapeake Bay Program
410 Severn Avenue, Suite 112
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Rich,

At the March 13, 2013, meeting of the Chesapeake Bay Program Water Quality Goal Implementation Team BMP Verification Committee, the states were asked to provide their input on "Attachment F – Watershed Technical Workgroup Requests for Guidance on Historical Data Clean Up."

The State of West Virginia prefers option 1, which states that "Verification of practices would NOT be required from 1985 to present." This approach would allow the states maximum flexibility while they make their best efforts to capture all available data, without burdening them with requirements they may not be able to meet.

If the majority of other Bay jurisdictions decide option 1 is not viable, **West Virginia's second preference is option 3**, which states that "Verification of practices would NOT be required from 1985 to 2000, but WOULD be required from 2000 through present." However, West Virginia would like to discuss changing the 2000 date to make it easier for the states to comply.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. We look forward to our continued work with the Bay jurisdictions on this important topic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. Matthew Monroe".

J. Matthew Monroe
Assistant Director – Environmental Programs
West Virginia Department of Agriculture
(on behalf of the State of West Virginia)