



**Principals' Staff Committee Meeting
October 3, 2017**

Actions/Decisions

2017 Midpoint Assessment

- **Action:** The PSC agreed that WQGIT will provide PSC with a presentation of each jurisdiction's 2025 growth at the December 19-20 PSC retreat.
- **Decision:** The PSC did *not* agree with the WQGIT's recommendation to remove two Conowingo modeling scenarios and requested the WQGIT to present updated data for all the options at the December PSC meeting.
- **Decision:** The PSC requested that the "most effective basins" option recommended by the WQGIT be added to the existing three options already identified by the PSC: *Conowingo only*, *all-basins*, and *Susquehanna + MD + VA*.
- **Action:** The PSC recommended that CBP staff draft two letters on PSC expectations for addressing increased loads associated with Conowingo infill as part of the Clean Water Act 401 certification. One letter would address the calls for reducing state authority under the 401 water quality certification process and one would call on Exelon to be an active partner in addressing the additional loads due to the Conowingo Dam infill. Drafts should be ready for review for the October 30 PSC call at which time the PSC will decide whom the recipients of the letters should be.
- **Decision:** The PSC agreed to the WQGIT recommendation to remove "Element A" of the qualitative policy option related to Phase III WIP development. The Climate Resiliency Workgroup will revise the language prior to the December 19-20 PSC retreat.
- **Decision:** The PSC agreed to the WQGIT recommendation that if the Partnership adopts only the qualitative policy component, jurisdictions may also address climate change quantitatively in the Phase II WIPs and 2-year milestones. Jurisdictions will have the flexibility to implement climate change policies that exceed minimum standards.
- **Decision:** The PSC agreed to postpone the two-day retreat scheduled for October 30-31 and instead hold the retreat on December 19-20 to make all the listed decisions presented by the WQGIT. The PSC also agreed to hold a two-hour conference call on October 30 to discuss strategy and updates on the congressional letters of support for CBP funding.
- **Action:** The WQGIT will provide the PSC with the full set of decision-making briefing materials at least 10 days in advance of the December 19 meeting (and following the joint WQGIT/Modeling Workgroup meeting scheduled for the week of December 4).
- **Decision:** The PSC agreed to the revisions to the Midpoint Assessment schedule recommended by the WQGIT as further modified by the PSC, including:
 - Adding the December 19-20 PSC meeting where the PSC will decide on the draft Phase III WIP planning targets (and then undergo a four-month review by the jurisdictions); and
 - Adjusting the dates of the remainder of the WQGIT's proposed revised schedule to reflect this new PSC decision meeting date.

- Action: CBPO staff will distribute the PSC-approved, detailed version of the updated Midpoint Assessment schedule to PSC members as soon as possible.

Environmental Finance Action Team

- Decision: The PSC approved the Environmental Action Team's final recommendations identified in their final report, "The Path Forward" and agreed to begin implementing those recommendations. Pennsylvania agreed to stand aside on the issue.

Recent Congressional Actions

- Note: Governor Hogan would like to send a transmittal letter on behalf of the EC on the signed resolution. The letter would emphasize the work invested into the Chesapeake Bay by many agencies, jurisdictions, and local governments. The letter would be sent Congress and preferably the executive branch.
- Action: The PSC chair will circulate a draft letter opposing the House-passed budget rider that would prohibit backstop actions related to the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. The jurisdiction PSC members agreed to seek support for such a letter, after reviewing it, with their chain of command. The letter would be sent by Governor Hogan on behalf of the jurisdiction partners.
- Action: The Chesapeake Bay Commission will provide a summary of Senator Van Hollen's draft bill on the Regional Conservation Partnership Program along with a draft letter in support of the bill. The letter would be for governor's signature. PSC members agreed to share the summary and draft letter within their chain of command for consideration. Signatures will be requested within the next two weeks (October 17).

Environmental Literacy Directive

- Decision: The PSC agreed that the draft, updated version of the Executive Council's Education Directive 98-1 should be signed by the Executive Council. All jurisdictions except West Virginia and New York tentatively support the updated directive.
- Action: The updated directive will be sent electronically to PSC members with the goal of obtaining governors' signatures by the December 19-20 meeting.

Update on Biennial Progress Reviews and Process

- Decision: Due to time constraints, the PSC agreed to table the update on the SRS biennial review process until the October 30 PSC conference call.