



Principals' Staff Committee
Washington, DC
July 9, 2018

Actions and Decisions

Final EPA Phase III WIPs: Federal Agencies and Facilities Expectations

- Action: EPA agreed to work with the Department of Defense to try to resolve a few questions they had about the final EPA Expectations for Federal Agencies and Facilities document.
- Action: The EPA Regional Administrator committed to sharing any edits to the federal expectations document with the PSC partners.

Final Midpoint Assessment Policy Decisions

- Decision: The PSC approved by consensus the implementation of the recommended corrections and changes to the Partnership's Phase 6 suite of models as identified by the Chesapeake Bay Program Office (CBPO) and the jurisdictions and as presented.
 - Note: New York's representative asked to "stand aside" on the approval of the corrections and changes to the Partnership's Phase 6 models (employing the partnership's Consensus Continuum), citing the need to spend more time reviewing the model corrections and changes. New York's final planning targets are based on the above-reference modeling corrections.
- Decision: The PSC unanimously approved the proposed final Phase III WIP planning targets for nitrogen and phosphorus as modified and listed in the table below. To reach agreement on these planning targets and address New York's and West Virginia's asks for 250,000 and 110,000 pounds of nitrogen to be added to their planning targets, respectively, the PSC agreed to factor in:
 - The 254,000 pounds of additional nitrogen as presented to the PSC by CBPO staff in the amended meeting presentation;
 - New York's and West Virginia's agreement to each take on responsibility for the proposed contribution from Pennsylvania's load reductions of 45,000 pounds of nitrogen and split it equally between the states, with the resultant pounds factored into to their final Phase III WIP nitrogen planning targets (24,000 pounds each); and
 - Maryland providing 50,000 pounds of nitrogen and Virginia providing 16,000 pounds of nitrogen from their respective reduced load reductions.
 - As a result, New York's final Phase III WIP nitrogen planning target will be 11.53 million pounds and West Virginia's final Phase III WIP nitrogen planning target will be 8.22 million pounds.

Jurisdiction	Final Phase III WIP Nitrogen Planning Target	Final Phase III WIP Phosphorus Planning Target
District of Columbia	2.42	0.130
Delaware	4.55	0.108

Maryland	45.78	3.680
New York	11.53	0.587
Pennsylvania	73.18	3.044
Virginia	55.73	6.192
West Virginia	8.22	0.432
Total	201.41	14.173

- Note: For the record, West Virginia noted they are fully supportive of the final Phase III WIP planning targets and would expect the same provision of equity pounds to West Virginia in case the jurisdictions need to develop Phase IV WIPs post-2025. No PSC action was taken.
- Decision: The PSC approved the recommended resolution to concerns raised by Delaware and Maryland on agricultural tax ditches in the Partnership’s Phase 6 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model.
- Decision: The PSC agreed that:
 - The jurisdictions’ Phase III WIP nitrogen and phosphorus planning targets will remain unchanged through 2025, recognizing that the PSC reserves the right to revisit this decision if necessary.
 - The Partnership will make no further changes to the Phase 6 Model until the end of 2019, in advance of the 2020-2021 milestones, when decisions on any model changes would be made by the Partnership.
 - Fully consistent with prior decisions by the Management Board and the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team, all future changes to the Partnership’s Phase 6 suite of models will continue to be made only after decisions by the Partnership in advance of each future two-year milestone period.
- Decision: The PSC approved the revisions to the Phase III WIP development schedule as presented (draft Phase III WIPs posted on jurisdictions’ websites by April 12, 2019; Final Phase III WIPs posted on jurisdictions’ websites by August 9, 2019).

Draft Conowingo WIP

- Note: EPA agreed to consider, along with other comments received from the Conowingo WIP Steering Committee, the following statement and question from the Local Government Advisory Committee in response to the Conowingo WIP draft Request for Proposals:

“LGAC recognizes the importance of tracking, verifying and reporting practices. For many local governments, particularly those in unregulated areas (non-MS4s) this could be a significant challenge.”

 - LGAC requests clarification of what would be asked of a contractor in terms of enhancing the capabilities of local partners to track, verify and report on practices.
- Note: PSC Chair Ben Grumbles agreed to distribute the Conowingo WIP Guiding Principles to the PSC members for review.

Executive Council Meeting

- Decision: The PSC agreed that in lieu of the proposed Education Directive, Executive Council members would highlight in their talking points, their organizations’ environmental education initiatives.
- Action: The PSC agreed to support a CBP-led Environmental Education conference every two years.

- Action: The PSC directs the MB to discuss and make a recommendation for how the partnership can move forward with an Executive Council directive when one or more partners declines to sign-on to it.
- ~~Decision: The PSC approved the following indicator targets for the Diversity Outcome:~~
 - ~~By 2025, 25% of the total CBP partnership be people of color.~~
 - ~~By 2025, 15% of CBP leadership consist of people of color.~~
- Action: The PSC agreed that Executive Council members would highlight in their talking points the **new Management Board-approved** CBP targets for diversity and their respective organizations' work on diversity. Note: the PSC *DID NOT* need to approve the diversity indicator targets for the Diversity Outcome (per the CBP Governance Document, the PSC must approve changes to outcomes, but *the MB gives approval on indicators/targets*).
- Decision: The PSC approved the Agriculture Directive, with comments provided during the meeting, for EC signature.

Green Ribbon Schools letter

- Decision: The PSC approved the letter from the PSC Chair to Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos commending the U.S. Department of Education for its continued support and administration of the Green Ribbon Schools Program and committing to promoting the effort throughout the region.
- Note: Delaware suggested considering having the Executive Council Chair, Governor Larry Hogan, send the letter.