**Management Board Conference Call**

**February 9, 2012**

**Meeting Summary; Actions and Decisions**

**Evaluating Final Outcomes of 2009-2011 Milestones**

Nick DiPasquale, Management Board Chair, advised MB members that the Milestones issue was removed from the agenda to allow additional time to discuss all possible options for evaluating final outcomes of the 2009-2011 milestones.

**Proposed BMP Verification Process -**  Approved by PSC

Rich Batiuk, U.S. EPA, briefed the Management Board (MB) on the proposal for the CBP partnership’s development of a comprehensive BMP tracking, verification, and reporting system. The system, now incorporating BMP verification, would be adopted for use by all CBP partners. MB members agreed that the process of developing a verification system should be inclusive from the beginning to avoid any conflicts with other groups working on similar or related efforts. The Chesapeake Bay Commission offered the expertise of its Economic of Trading Advisory Council, currently working on a report on economics and trading, and will suggest candidates for the BMP Verification Panel. The Citizens Advisory Committee emphasized the importance of tracking abandoned mine lands reclamation and the need to consider these nutrient and sediment reduction actions when developing the appropriate verification protocols. Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection urged the MB to modify the schedule if more time is needed by the partnership to fully develop the verification process.

* Decision: The MB decided to proceed with the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team’s proposal for developing a comprehensive BMP tracking, verification and reporting system, recognizing the possible need for the CBP partnership to revise the aggressive development schedule.
* Decision: The MB decided to add regular updates and requests for review/decisions on the BMP verification system development process as a standing issue on upcoming MB meeting agendas for the next six months. The MB requested to be consulted on key decision points as the proposal moves forward through the outlined process.
* Decision: The MB decided it would be responsible for making decisions on the BMP verification panel’s membership, elevating to the Principals’ Staff Committee for decisions only if necessary.
* Action: Chesapeake Bay Program Office (CBPO) staff will distribute to MB members a white paper developed by USDA’s Office of Environmental Markets summarizing verification processes for environmental credits followed by other programs and organizations across the country.
* Action: CBPO staff will set up a “BMP verification process” page on the CBP partnership’s website which will include links to all the other verification related efforts described within the presentation and briefing paper.

**Maryland Proposal on Supplemental Indicator for Wastewater Treatment – Final options under consideration**

Rich Eskin, Maryland Department of the Environment, briefed the MB on a proposal to develop a supplemental indicator for wastewater treatment to better explain and reflect progress on nutrient reduction efforts. MB members and others agreed that we have difficulty trying to justify or explain graphics to the public and elected officials to reflect what is actually happening in the watershed. Some concern was expressed that states would not be able to provide additional information or resources toward this effort. EPA believes existing reported data is available to support a supplemental indicator without further burdening the jurisdictions.

* Decision: The MB agreed that there is value in pursuing a supplemental indicator and would like to continue a dialogue about it. EPA agreed to will put together materials to support additional discussions.

**Issues and Agenda for February 16, 2012 Principals’ Staff Meeting**

MB members reviewed the draft PSC agenda and had no comments or edits.