



MINUTES
Wastewater Treatment Workgroup (WWTWG)
Teleconference
Tuesday, April 7, 2015, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Summary of Action and Decision Items

ACTION: CBPO Staff will place the March minutes on the May meeting calendar page, and the WWTWG will be asked for formal approval during the May meeting.

ACTION: Maryland's Rapid Infiltration project will be discussed in greater detail during the May WWTWG conference call.

ACTION: CBPO Staff will send out an email to the WWTWG with Virginia Beach's presentation and a summary of the main points and remaining questions. Workgroup members will then have 10 business days to provide comments and feedback. If no substantive comments are received, the proposal will be sent forward to the Urban Stormwater Workgroup for their review and approval.

ACTION: CBPO Staff will distribute the language regarding getting support and funding to assist with historic data cleanup efforts in an email following the April conference call.

ACTION: Ning will send the scope of work for Tetra Tech to assist in Pennsylvania's historic wastewater data cleanup efforts to Ron Furlan.

ACTION: Ning Zhou will be scheduling one-on-one calls with each of the states to discuss the availability and collection of spray irrigation and biosolids data.

ACTION: Ning Zhou will develop a methodology for using default biosolids data values for situations where no state data is provided. He will present the methodology for review and approval during the May WWTWG conference call.

ACTION: Maureen Tooke will send a memo to the WWTWG announcing the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation with details about the project and the event. (Post-Meeting Addition: Item Completed)

Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements—*Tanya Spano (MWCOG, Chair)*

- Ning Zhou (VT, Coordinator) provided status updates on the action items from the March conference call.
- Spano: I think we should key up the Rapid Infiltration project for the May meeting because I feel like the decision on how they are handled should be made in an open forum rather than internally by the modeling team.

ACTION: CBPO Staff will place the March minutes on the May meeting calendar page, and the WWTWG will be asked for formal approval during the May meeting.

ACTION: Maryland's Rapid Infiltration project will be discussed in greater detail during the May WWTWG conference call.

Boat Pump-out Facilities BMP – Steve McLaughlin, City of Virginia Beach and John Paine, AECOM

- John presented a proposed path forward for the Boat Pump-Out Facilities in a No Discharge Zone BMP and requested a decision from the WWTWG regarding how to proceed.

Discussion:

- Paine: The City would like to receive credit for the nutrient reductions from Boat Pump Outs within the Lynnhaven River's No Discharge Zone towards meeting its Chesapeake Bay TMDL requirements. The City proposes that credit be provided for Type I and Type II marine sanitation devices (MSDs) based upon frequent sampling, collected from the primary holding tanks at the facilities, and through metering the pumps to determine effluent volume.
- Spano: What is the logic behind reporting through your MS4 permits?
 - Paine: That is where the TMDL is enforced upon the city.
- Spano: The costs presented are annual costs?
 - Paine: They are annualized costs that include everything including operation and maintenance, and installation.
- Ron Furlan (PA DEP): Where is the waste from the pump out facilities being transported?
 - Paine: They go to the Atlantic Wastewater Treatment Plant, which discharges to the Atlantic Ocean.
- Furlan: Will you be charging those who dump into station?
 - Paine: It will be a free service.
- Allan Brockenbrough (VA DEQ): Are you metering the flow, and if so how will you take credit for Type I and II MSDs but not Type III MSDs?
 - Paine: Type III are just dumped into a disposal pit. When computing our estimates of removal, we didn't compute a load for Type III because they were illegal even prior to the establishment of the no discharge zone.
- Spano: I ask a moment for the Virginia representatives to comment on the progress of this process.
 - Brockenbrough: We had concerns initially because these discharges were already illegal when the TMDL was put in place. Beyond that, they seemed to just be asking for BMP credit under their MS4, and there was precedent for that and so we felt it should go through this Bay Program approval process. They can very easily measure the actual reductions and it is definitely an actual reduction in loads.
 - Marcia Degen (VDH): If this were to move forward, it would have to be written up so that if another jurisdiction wanted to implement it, they could.
- Spano: Part of the issue is the matter of where the load source is that this would be reduced from.
- Degen: You would want to make sure you are working at marinas most directly tied to the Chesapeake Bay as well.
- Spano: Does this seem viable enough to suggest as a BMP? Do any states have a problem with this moving forward?
 - Brockenbrough: We don't have a problem, but there are some questions that would have to be fleshed out. I think there is a baseline for when these reductions occurred. There is also the issue of these Type III MSDs that weren't supposed to be allowed to discharge in the first place.
- Paine: Is there really any way to say boat waste was in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model?
 - Brockenbrough: That load just would have been implicitly attributed to other sources.
- Spano: Could we tentatively say this workgroup feels this can move forward?
- Zhou: The next step if the WWTWG recommends moving forward with this BMP, is to go to the Watershed Technical Workgroup to figure out how to get this into the Watershed Model.

Because this will be credited through direct measurement, I don't think we will need an expert panel to review this. We need to follow up on the verification and how the measurement data will be reported.

- Zhou: I think we need to get the Urban Stormwater Workgroup involved as well since this will be crediting under the MS4.
 - Spano: I agree.
- Degen: We have a lot of marinas not in an MS4 area. Maybe there are other sectors that could use this practice as well.

ACTION: CBPO Staff will send out an email to the WWTWG with Virginia Beach's presentation and a summary of the main points and remaining questions. Workgroup members will then have 10 business days to provide comments and feedback. If no substantive comments are received, the proposal will be sent forward to the Urban Stormwater Workgroup for their review and approval.

OWTS Attenuation BMP Expert Panel Update – Vic D'Amato, Tetra Tech

- Vic updated the WWTWG on the progress and current approach of the BMP expert panel.

Discussion:

- Furlan: Have determined timeframes for how long it takes what doesn't attenuate to actually reach the Chesapeake Bay?
 - D'Amato: It is extremely variable and there is a lot of literature that suggests that variability. This deep-groundwater route that some nutrients take has been mentioned.
 - Furlan: It was a real issue with Pennsylvania because the idea of requiring denitrification systems has been a real fight. It is a hard sell to residents and legislators. If you come out with this, you need to break it up by distance and where the technologies put in place have the biggest bang for the buck.
- D'Amato: I don't want to speculate too much before we actually have our recommendations ready, but I'm pretty sure we will have much higher attenuation rates in these inland areas. I think the end product will show that these advanced treatment systems need to be targeted to areas where you will get the most bang for your buck.
- Spano: I caution that if one only looks at attenuation through the lens of Bay-wide restoration, then that will impact the end result. I recommend you don't overlook the local stream impacts. Rather than just focusing in the impact to the larger Chesapeake Bay TMDL, keep in mind the local stream TMDLs.
 - D'Amato: To clarify, attenuation numbers will be attenuation occurring between the onsite system and the stream, not to the tidal Bay.

Historic Data Cleanup – Ning Zhou, VT

- Zhou: We have finished one-on-one calls with all jurisdictions except for Delaware, and a call with them will take place this week.
- Zhou: A reminder that the initial focus should be on providing starting dates and ending dates for facilities. In some states that data should be fine, in others, it might need to be looked at more closely. I recommend evaluating this data based on what information you have in the permits, maybe the original permit issue dates. After this table has been cleaned up, the next step will be comparatively easy.
- Zhou: I got positive feedback from Bay Program management regarding getting Tetra Tech assistance to help with this effort. I will send out language to this membership regarding support

and funding. If you want to discuss any technical issues or comments, please feel free to contact me.

ACTION: CBPO Staff will distribute the language regarding getting support and funding to assist with historic data cleanup efforts in an email following the April conference call.

- Furlan: You said you were going to get a scope of work put together for Tetra Tech to assist Pennsylvania?
 - Zhou: Yes, that is part of our plan.
- Furlan: What is the timeframe on that?
 - Ning: Probably this week or next week we will have that to you.
 - Furlan: Please copy me on that correspondence.

ACTION: Ning will send the scope of work for Tetra Tech to assist in Pennsylvania's historic wastewater data cleanup efforts to Ron Furlan.

Biosolids and Spray Irrigation Data – Ning Zhou, VT

- Zhou: So far I have discussed biosolids data with New York, and I will start contacting each other jurisdiction in the next week or two to discuss this effort. I have receive sample data from Maryland and Delaware for spray irrigation, and the Delaware data is derived from permits, so hopefully that data should be regularly available.
 - Dave Schepens (DE DNREC): To clarify, spray irrigation does not run through the NPDES program, it is a different program.
- Zhou: Since I don't have sample data from other states, is that spray irrigation available? I will try to schedule calls to get a sense of that.

ACTION: Ning Zhou will be scheduling one-on-one calls with each of the states to discuss the availability and collection of spray irrigation and biosolids data.

- Zhou: I went through biosolids data on the March call, and I have just updated this table with Delaware's inputs, and updated the column on what we've downloaded from ICIS. Right now I don't have reported data from Pennsylvania, D.C., and West Virginia. I will work out a default methodology to present to the WWTWG during the May conference call to see how we will use the default numbers if there is no state input.

ACTION: Ning Zhou will develop a methodology for using default biosolids data values for situations where no state data is provided. He will present the methodology for review and approval during the May WWTWG conference call.

- Spano: Who is responsible for the Blue Plains data? The facility is in D.C., but it is applied in Maryland and Virginia.
 - Zhou: You are right, that is why there is a note that Maryland data includes the Blue Plains facility. I need to speak with Matt Johnston (UMD, CBPO) and Jeff Sweeney (EPA, CBPO) to clarify, but we want to get as much biosolids data as possible.
- Spano: My problem with that is it can't just be accuracy for the sake of accuracy. It has to be related to the overall load. If there is no significant load associated with the biosolids data contribution, then it is not worth tracking. That is the line I have always presented.

Updates and other business

- Maureen Tooke (EPA): The states are ready to sign off on a Memorandum of Cooperation on the Sharing of Data on Advanced Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems. That will happen on April 16th at 12:00pm at the Bay Program Office in Annapolis.

ACTION: Maureen Tooke will send a memo to the WWTWG announcing the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation with details about the project and the event.

Adjourn

Next conference call:

Tuesday, May 5, 2015

List of Call Participants

Name	Affiliation
Tanya Spano (Chair)	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
Ning Zhou (Coordinator)	VT, CBPO
David Wood (Staff)	CRC, CBPO
Shaun Bradbury	AECOM
John Paine	AECOM
Dave Schepens	DE DNREC
Bryan Ashby	DE DNREC
Lana Sindler	MWCOG
Rashid Ahmid	NYSDEC
Ron Furlan	PA Dept. of Environmental Protection
Dharmendra Kumar	PA Dept. of Environmental Protection
Vic D'Amato	Tetra Tech
Sue Kreibel	Virginia Beach Public Works
Steve McLaughlin	Virginia Beach Public Works
Marcia Degen	Virginia Dept. Of Health
Allen Brockenbrough	Virginia DEQ
Jaime Bauer	Virginia DEQ
Glynn Rountree	