

**CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM  
WATER QUALITY GOAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAM**

**SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2010 CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES**

**SUMMARY OF DECISION AND ACTION ITEMS**

**ACTION:** Please submit any recommendations for new WQGIT Chair, Co-Chair or Vice Chair to Katherine Antos.

**ACTION:** Submit comments on the draft Executive Order Action Plan by C.O.B. Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.

**ACTION:** Submit comments on the Bay Barometer to Nita Sylvester by September 27, 2010.

**MINUTES**

Announcements

- Thanks for work on WIPs. Response letter(s) will be sent out shortly
- Looking for Chair, Co-Chair, and Vice Chair nominees for WQGIT

**ACTION:** Please submit any recommendations for new WQGIT Chair, Co-Chair or Vice Chair to Katherine Antos.

Federal Register – Pete Gold

- PDF version of signed finalized copy will be sent out at the end of the day
- State-specific webinars with state-specific info will be available for public
- Might be published on September 21<sup>st</sup>, if they do not meet deadlines today
- Newspaper recommendations made by states. Should have info in the next few days on which papers will have announcement
- Plan on publishing notice of EPA meetings for all state meetings in each paper, e.g., not just Williamsport PA meeting in Williamsport paper

Executive Order Action Plan – Jim Edward

- Water Quality Goal part of the Action Plan
- Final strategy commits to over \$300 million
- Plan will be final September 30th

**ACTION:** Submit comments on the draft Executive Order Action Plan by C.O.B. Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.

- Pat Buckley expressed concern about the Conowingo Dam action, stating that PA has not and cannot make this commitment. Jim Edward, EPA, explained that ACE put that action in, and that he will follow up on PA's concerns.
- Pat Buckley also request state education on Scenario Builder.

2010 Bay Barometer Communication Challenges Presentation – Nita Sylvester

- See also: 2010 Bay Barometer Communication Challenges for WQGIT Handout
- Percent of goal achieved based on 2003 goals and old Tributary Strategies, numbers based on Phase 4.3 model

Slide 7 – simulation of EPA, state breakouts

Slide 9 – Sector breakout has value in solving finger pointing of different sectors

*State Feedback:*

*MD:* Including sediment is a concern.

*PA:* Concerned that public will have to dig down for indicators. Request that Bay Barometer bring forward historical information in foreword.

*CBF:* Combine EPA indicators.

*NY:* Public understands that federal Clean Air Act still requires state actions

*VA:* Wastewater data comes together mid-spring. How can we resolve this issue?

*Sylvester:* When people drill down they will see when the data is from.

Slide 17 – Communications Workgroup supports phased approach described on slides 3 or 4

*State Feedback:*

*MD:* We do not agree. We have been striving for these milestones and they are part of our WIP. BayStat is in place and we are ready to report tracking on 2-yr milestones but don't know how the other states are reporting.

*VA:* Prefer option 3.

*WV:* We cannot do separate tracking but thought tracking of implementation milestones would inform Bay Barometer.

*PA:* Maybe option 5 to get it away from Bay Barometer. I will consult with management and have a firm decision.

*CBF:* Recommend Bay Barometer as snapshot of how the Bay is doing and not the ongoing efforts, but be careful transmitting so many messages and tools

*DE:* Leaning toward option 5.

*NY:* Flexible, no comparison of 4.3-5.3 but we might like to see it.

**ACTION:** Submit comments on the Bay Barometer to Nita Sylvester by September 27, 2010.

[A New Technique to Assess Trends in Nutrients in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed](#)

– Bob Hirsh

- Paper is currently undergoing peer review, to be released in the next few days
- Available online, Google WRTDS, Hirsch
- Enhancements will be made in the coming months

Slide 15 – Summarizes findings on standardized data.

## **PARTICIPANTS**

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