

October 3, 2023

The Honorable Kathy Hochul Governor of New York State Capitol Building Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

As chair of the Chesapeake Executive Council for the Chesapeake Bay Program, I am pleased to invite you to our annual meeting October 19, 2023, at the National Arboretum here in Washington, D.C.

The theme for this year's meeting will be the Chesapeake Bay Partnership: Past, Present and Future. Not only is the partnership celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary during this pivotal year, but we are also laying the foundation for the next evolution of the Chesapeake Bay Program.

At our 2022 meeting the Executive Council charged the partnership's Principals' Staff Committee to report back this year on how the partnership can best address and integrate new science and restoration strategies leading up to 2025. At this year's meeting, we will hear about the recent progress toward 2025 as the partnership begins to discuss the future of the Chesapeake Bay Program beyond 2025.

I invite you to join U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Deputy Administrator Janet McCabe and other members of the Executive Council at 11 a.m. at the National Arboretum for a walking tour to see restoration efforts in action prior to the start of the meeting. Lunch with the rest of the council will follow the tour, and we will hold a public meeting and press conference with a 2 p.m. conclusion.

I ask that at your earliest convenience, your staff confirm your attendance to Rachel Felver, Chesapeake Bay Program communications director, at rfelver@chesapeakebay.net.

Please accept my gratitude for your continued support in the recovery and protection of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, or your colleagues may contact Deputy Associate Administrator for Intergovernmental Relations John Lucey at Lucey.John.D@epa.gov or 202-564-1820.

Sincerely yours,

Michael S. Regan

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