Proposed Approach for Setting Federal Facilities Targets

Management Board Meeting 10/13/14

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Background

- ▶ Following EPA's evaluation of the 2012–2013 twoyear milestones, the Management Board requested that CBPO explore options for improving federal facilities' BMP progress reporting, including the use of targets to quantify expected load reductions from federal facilities.
- The Management Board requested a proposal for consideration at their November meeting and the December PSC meeting. This version incorporates comments received from the Water Quality GIT.

Background

- For the Phase 6 Watershed Model and the Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) in 2018, there will be a new federal lands overlay for use with the land use classifications which will help identify the acres and loads associated with federal facilities.
- Between now and the end of 2017, the following approach is being proposed for setting federal facility targets using the new BayFAST tool.

- EPA requested the Federal Leadership Committee (FLC) to endorse the setting of federal facility targets at the October 28, 2014 FLC meeting and to direct their respective agency facility managers to work with the jurisdictions on meeting the pollution reduction targets set for their facilities.
- CBP provides the jurisdictions with a comprehensive list of federal facilities/lands in their respective jurisdiction.
- Jurisdictions identify a list of "Priority Federal Facilities" based on their own criteria (e.g., VA list is top 75 facilities that constitute ~90% of the nutrient and sediment loads from federal facilities/lands in their state). States with a limited number of federal facilities/lands in the Bay watershed may choose not to create a priority list.

- 4. Jurisdictions contact each of the "Priority Federal Facilities" informing them of their plans to provide them with N, P and S reduction targets for 2017 with interim reporting for 2015 and 2016 that demonstrates progress toward the 2017 target and 2025 goal.
- 5. Jurisdictions request facilities to use BayFAST to update land use information for their facilities and provide that information to the jurisdiction.
- 6. Upon receipt of the facilities' land use data, jurisdictions determine appropriate 2017 targets and 2025 goals based on the state-basin in which the facility is located and provide those targets in writing to each priority federal facility. Targets could be based on per acre loading rates or percent reductions specific to each land use in each state-basin.

- Federal Leadership Committee members (or equivalent) informing them of their agency's facilities in each of the Bay jurisdictions that have received targets and stating EPA's expectation for meeting the targets. EPA also expects FLC members to communicate these targets directly to each of their facility managers.
- 8. Federal facilities use BayFAST to create BMP scenarios to meet those targets, using those scenario results to inform their future development of two-year milestones. Federal facilities will report BMP implementation progress towards these targets to the jurisdictions annually on October 1 using the spreadsheet templates for each jurisdiction's annual progress run data submission.

- 9. Federal agencies are to undertake BMP verification following the Basinwide BMP Verification Framework approved and adopted in September 2014 by the Principals' Staff Committee. As part of this framework, federal facilities should also conduct an inventory of historic BMPs implemented on their facilities, so they get credit for nutrient and sediment practices already put in place.
- Jurisdictions incorporate federal facility progress data into annual progress runs submitted through the National Environmental Information Exchange Network (NEIEN) to calculate load reductions. EPA evaluates federal facilities' progress and milestone commitments as part of its annual oversight.

- EPA will assist the jurisdictions in this effort by working with the FLC, FOD and Federal Facilities Team to inform them of this process and get needed, top-level support from federal agency management.
- EPA also provides contract support for any changes needed to BayFAST, CAST, MAST, VAST tools and offers additional BayFAST training to federal agencies and jurisdictions.

Next Steps:

- The Water Quality GIT and the Management Board approved moving the concept proposal forward to the PSC for approval. They also decided that a small team of jurisdiction and federal agency representatives would be formed to develop a more detailed protocol for implementing this approach.
- Jurisdictions and federal agencies will be requested to identify a representative to work on the team to develop the protocol.
- The protocol would be developed following approval of this proposed approach by the Management Board and Principals Staff Committee.



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