

Proposed New Q/A

Q-34: I am retrofitting a BMP that was not previously reported to the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) and was built before 2006, which is the final year of the CBP Watershed Model calibration period. Can it still be considered a new retrofit and receive full removal rate credit based on its total treatment volume? *Katherine from DC*

A-34 **No**, the project can only be considered an existing retrofit (BMP conversion, enhancement or restoration) and receive the incremental removal credit (the higher retrofit rate less the original removal rate). This is done by using the appropriate protocol outlined on pages 17 and 18 of the expert panel report.

The main reason is that CBP can only give credit for the impact of additional actions that were implemented after the end of the Watershed Model calibration period. That is because it is credited either implicitly or explicitly in the CBP Watershed Model as part of the calibration process, regardless of whether a BMP was reported to CBP. This issue was not addressed by the original expert panel, but the CBP Modeling Workgroup has issued guidelines that apply to other expert panels that ensure that they are modeling in a consistent way that best measures real changes on the ground that have occurred since the model calibration period. The calibration period for the current watershed model (Phase 5.3.2) extends through December 31, 2005.

Q-35: Is it possible to receive credit for retrofitting a water body that was not originally designed for stormwater quality treatment, such as a farm pond, a PL-566 reservoir or a flood control facility, that was not previously reported to the state ? *Randy from Richmond.*

A-35: **Yes**, but under some fairly stringent conditions. The removal rate would be calculated using the incremental difference between the original removal rate and the higher removal rate caused by conversion, enhancement or restoration of the facility that occurs after 2005 (See Q-34). In addition, both the treatment volume and drainage area of the original facility and its retrofit will need to be substantiated to quantify the change in removal rate due to the post 2005 retrofit.