



Piedmont Regional Pilot Project Chesapeake Bay TMDL

August 9, 2010

Steve Williams, Thomas Jefferson
Planning District Commission

Why is TJPDC involved with Chesapeake Bay TMDL?

Presentation on Chesapeake Bay TMDL process to TJPDC in February by Leslie Middleton/Sally Thomas

Concerns of TJPDC:

1. Ches Bay TMDL process would impact many aspects of TJPDC region
2. This could become result in new regulatory or administrative mandates on local government
3. Commissioners felt that coordinated regional response would best serve needs of the local governments

TJPDC committed to participate in regional response to Ches Bay TMDL

How will the Chesapeake Bay TMDL affect local government?

- Allocations set for local governments/watersheds/regions for nitrogen, phosphorous, sediment
- We might have some discretion as to whether the local level identified as municipalities, watershed organization or PDC
- Require improved attention to existing regulatory efforts
- Require increased regulatory efforts
- All new pollutant loadings resulting from growth will need to be offset
- Local discretion will exist for how to meet pollutant loads. But, if there is not a local plan, then responsibility for meeting pollutant loads will fall on DCR and ultimately EPA

Will there be any actual enforcement that will impact local government?

- Enforcement could come from state or federal agencies, or from citizens, including fishing or environmental groups
- Legislation pending in Congress could affect (Cardin/Cummings bill, others)
- Enforcement possible with or without TMDL

What advantage is there in working together as a region in this process?

- A collective voice asking for resources for implementation
- Opportunities to work together to figure out the methods for reducing loads of pollutants across all the source sectors
- EPA has created the potential for pollutant offsets between source sectors and pollutant categories

What assistance could local governments possibly receive?

- An important part of developing the implementation plan will be determining just what levels of training and funding, among other resources, will be needed to meet goals of the TMDLs.
- Major purpose of this pilot project is to give local governments the opportunity to tell EPA/DCR the resources that will be needed for implementation.
- Once obtained, this information will be used to develop strategies and timelines to remove those barriers. This should lead to an implementation plan that will include an estimate of implementation costs and a listing of potential funding sources for the various implementation actions.

Piedmont Regional Pilot Project for the Chesapeake Bay TMDL

Based on an informal partnership of organizations and individuals who believe that the Chesapeake Bay TMDL process will powerfully impact central Virginia for many years to come

- *Alyson Sappington (TJSWCD)/Greg Wichelns (Culpepper SWCD)*
- *Steve Williams (TJPDC)*
- *Leslie Middleton (RRBC)*
- *Carl Schmitt (Greene County BOS)*
- *Connie Brennan (Nelson County BOS)*
- *Sally Thomas (CBP - Local Government Advisory Committee)*
- *Rick Parrish (SELC)*
- *Bill Kittrell (TNC)*

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Task 1: Existing Conditions – Utilize local monitoring data to base line existing conditions and analyze pollution targets. This task is awaiting release of Va Watershed Implementation Plan on September 1, 2010

Task 2: Conduct outreach to pollutant sector stakeholders to do the following:

- a) Solicit input on Chesapeake Bay TMDL
- b) Identify information or resources that are needed for implementation of Ches Bay TMDL within the region
- c) Build support for development of a regional Watershed Implementation Plan

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Stakeholder Outreach - Focus Groups with selected representatives of key stakeholder groups:

1. Local Governments
 - Local Government Staff: July 21, 2010
 - Local Government Elected Officials: September 8, 2010
2. Agriculture – August 31, 2010
3. Builders/Developers – mid to late September, 2010
4. Permitted Dischargers (wastewater, stormwater, local service authorities) – late September to early October, 2010
5. General Public/Environmental Groups

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Final Product of Pilot Project: Report and documentation of input process and recommendations for EPA/DCR-DEQ

- Documentation of focus group input process
- Information on issues that were raised by stakeholder groups
- Concerns related to Ches Bay TMDL implementation
- Resource needs for local government and others

Presentation of Final Report to Boards of Supervisors/City Council in Nov 2010 prior to submittal to EPA/DCR-DEQ

Questions?

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