Dear Chesapeake Bay Stakeholder:

On November 29, 2010, DEP sent to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Pennsylvania’s Phase 1 WIP which outlined the state’s plan to address nutrient and sediment loadings that drain to the Chesapeake Bay. The Phase 1 WIP was prepared following EPA’s November 4, 2009 guidance that outlined their expectations for WIPs, and was revised based on public comments, workgroup input and comments received from EPA. Pennsylvania’s Phase 1 WIP was prepared to address EPA’s expectations for the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) that was published on December 29, 2010.

EPA is expected to announce on August 1, 2011 revised nutrient and sediment allocations for the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. The allocations are the result of EPA’s development of a revised Watershed Model. Using the revised allocations, EPA expects the states to develop a Phase 2 Chesapeake Bay WIP (Phase 2 WIP) which will further subdivide the loads by local area (county). These will not be regulatory allocations to the county. Rather, they are to inform local implementers (e.g. municipal elected officials and planning agency personnel, county conservation districts and planning commissions) of the nutrient and sediment loads generated by their geographical area so they can help implement or plan appropriate actions to reduce the target loads. Local implementation efforts should focus on compliance with existing rules and regulations, as well as seeking opportunities for additional management actions.

EPA has established a December 1, 2011 deadline for submission of the Draft Phase 2 WIP, and a March 30, 2012 deadline for the final plan. EPA expects the Phase 2 WIP to contain greater detail about the first stage of implementation, which will last from when EPA established the Chesapeake Bay TMDL in December 2010 until 2017.

To assist stakeholders to understand how WIP’s are developed, we would like to invite you to attend an EPA sponsored workshop on the system of Chesapeake Bay models. A detailed agenda is attached. The workshop will take place on August 10th at DEP’s Rachel Carson State Office Building in Harrisburg, PA. For those unable to attend the workshop, you may participate by webinar via: https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/367337707.

If you are planning on attending the workshop in person, we ask that you confirm your attendance with Maggie Brommer in the Water Planning Office by phone at 717.783.8697 or by email at mbrommer@state.pa.us. Due to limited seating only those who RSVP will be guaranteed a seat. Thank you.

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Chesapeake Bay Scenario Builder Workshops DRAFT Agenda
August 10, 2011
Second Floor Auditorium
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Webinar Link:
https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/367337707

9:00 – 10:00  A Scenario Builder overview
Jeff Sweeney and Chris Brosch (EPA Chesapeake Bay Program) will be
describing the system of Chesapeake Bay models, purpose and role of Scenario
Builder as well as main assumptions. Included in this first module will be the basics
of crediting Best Management Practices (BMPs). BMP credit involves the
sequencing of credit, modes of pollution reduction and structure of the output.

10:00 – 12:00 Source Sector specific modules
Scenario Builder data sources and assumptions specific to agriculture, stormwater
and onsite septic systems will be explained in technical detail with time for questions.

12:00 Adjourn