



October 28, 2015

Dr. Lisa Wainger, Chair
Chesapeake Bay Program Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee
c/o Natalie Gardner, Coordinator
Chesapeake Research Consortium
645 Contees Wharf Road
Edgewater, MD 21037

Dear Chair Wainger,

On behalf of Governor Terry McAuliffe and the Chesapeake Executive Council, thank you for submitting the CBP's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) 2015 Annual Report and Recommendations in advance of the annual Executive Council meeting. The Executive Council relies on STAC to provide sound scientific advice and technical expertise, to improve collaboration and coordination with the research institutions in the watershed, and to enhance scientific communication and outreach throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed. We greatly value STAC's guidance and support and will continue to rely on your guidance in the coming months.

The list of issues for which the Partnership needs to be prepared is a helpful guide. Although we have not yet taken action on all of STAC's recommendations, we have moved forward on several of them. In response to STAC's recommendations for increased support for observation-based assessments, the Partnership is currently developing a new BASINs report. To help address Partnership needs in regard to climate adaptations, the Program has hired a climate change coordinator. It is our hope that this new position will help guide the Partners as they assess how future changes may affect the sustainability of on-the-ground restoration activities.

I have asked the CBP Management Board to work with you on your additional recommendations beginning with a more detailed discussion at the next MB meeting in November. I look forward to providing you with additional updates in the coming months and to having healthy conversations about how the Partnership can impact several of the other issues raised by STAC, including

contaminants of emerging concern, manure management and behavioral economics. If you have any questions or would like to discuss these issues in greater detail, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Molly Ward". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Molly Ward, Chair
CBP Principals Staff Committee

cc: Management Board Members
Goal Implementation Team Chairs
CBPO Director, Deputy and Associate Directors
Natalie Gardner, STAC Coordinator