

CBP Partnership Approach for Ensuring Full Accountability of Best Practices and Technologies Implemented

Chesapeake Bay Program Scientific and
Technical Advisory Committee Briefing

March 28, 2012 Meeting

Partnership Approach

- Build a Partnership-wide BMP Verification Program working up through CBP Partnership
 - Workgroups → GITs → MB → PSC
- Address full array of practices across all sources
 - Agricultural lands, forest lands, wetlands, developed lands, on-site treatment systems, abandoned mine lands, wastewater dischargers, stream corridors, tidal shorelines
- Factor in innovative approaches taken by jurisdictions, local municipalities, districts

Verification Framework

- BMP verification **principles**
 - Critical for approving jurisdictions' verification programs
- Source sector-specific verification **protocols**
 - Developed by workgroups, tailored to jurisdictions
- BMP verification **panel**
 - Recognized experts external to the partnership

Other Key Elements

- **Fully account for federal cost shared practices**
- **Prevent double counting**
- **Commitment to clean-up of historic data**
- **Build in practice life spans**

PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

WQGIT review, approval of
proposed process/schedule

Completed
1/9/2012

MB review, approval of
proposed process/schedule

Completed
2/9/2012

PSC review, approval of proposed
process/schedule

Completed
2/16/2012

Source sector-specific
verification protocols
developed by workgroups

Work
Underway

Workgroups with tracking, reporting and
accountability systems, offset/trading
program responsibilities work to resolve
issues, refine existing systems

Late March
2012

Weave together initial workgroup
products into preliminary draft BMP
verification principles and protocols

PARTNERSHIP APPROACH (Con't)

Preliminary draft BMP verification principles and protocols

April 2012

WQGIT review/modification/ of preliminary draft BMP verification principles, and protocols

March*/April 2012**

Briefings for CAC, STAC, and LGAC*; review of draft BMP verification principles, protocols by the other GITs**

May/June 2012

MB review/modification/approval to present proposed BMP verification principles, protocols to PSC

Summer 2012

PSC review/modification/adoption of BMP verification principles, protocols for the Partnership

Fall 2012

PSC communication of the Partnership's BMP Verification Program to partners/stakeholders through some formal agreement mechanism

Starting Fall 2012

BMP Verification Panel Reviews States' Proposed Verification Programs

Current Schedule*

- **Starting Fall/Winter 2012:** jurisdictions present their proposed BMP verification programs to the Panel for review
- **2013:** Following CBP Partnership approval of their BMP verification program, jurisdictions can track, verify, report, and receive credit for the full array of cost shared and non-cost shared practices
- **2014:** Account for expanded verified practices, technologies when reporting on 2012-2013 milestones and developing 2014-2015 milestones

Verification Work Underway

- NEIEN
 - Successful submission of 2010 progress data
- NACD
 - Project for development of data collection/verification protocols for non-cost shared ag practices
- USGS MOU's with NRCS/FSA
 - Improving access to federal cost-shared data
- USDA Office of Environmental Markets
 - Synthesis of verification of environ. credits

Where STAC Can Help

- Identification of recognized regional, national verification/certification experts for serving on the BMP Verification Panel
- Consider appointing STAC member(s) to participate on the WQGIT's BMP Verification Steering Committee or identify STAC members who can serve as 'sounding boards' on verification issues as they arise between STAC meetings

Where STAC Can Help

- Request updates/briefings at your upcoming quarterly meetings up through final PSC adoption
- Ensure STAC represented at the table at Management Board and PSC meetings where decisions on the BMP verification program are being sought

Rich Batiuk

Associate Director for Science
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Chesapeake Bay Program Office

410 Severn Avenue

Annapolis, MD 21403

410-267-5731 (office)

443-223-7823 (cell)

batiuk.richard@epa.gov

www.chesapeakebay.net