

Chesapeake Bay Program Water Quality Goal Implementation Team Policy

Addendum to the Protocol for the Development, Review, and Approval of Loading and Effectiveness Estimates for Nutrient and Sediment Controls in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model:

Conditions for Review Panel Members

DRAFT December 7, 2011

The Water Quality Goal Implementation Team's "Protocol for the Development, Review, and Approval of Loading and Effectiveness Estimates for Nutrient and Sediment Controls in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model" provides the following guidance on convening a review panel:

The source sector Workgroup, in consultation with the WTWG and WQGIT Chair, will identify and convene a panel of experts on the relevant topic. Each request for review should include suggestions for such panel members. The panel must include at least six individuals; three recognized topic experts and three individuals with expertise in environmental and water quality-related issues. It is also important that the review panel has appropriate geographic representation.

In addition to the conditions identified above:

- Panel members should not represent entities with potential conflicts of interest, such as entities that could receive a financial benefit from panel recommendations (eg recommendations regarding how a proprietary BMP is represented). All panelists are requested to identify any potential financial or other conflicts of interest prior to serving on the panel; and
- Panels should have an equitable representation of experts and affiliations.

These additional conditions will minimize the risk that review panels are biased toward particular interests or regions. The panel may elect to solicit input or presentations from groups that may not qualify as panel participants to ensure that the panel receives the full range of information and science available on the panel topic.