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

CBP Agricultural Workgroup Briefing

February 23, 2012 Conference Call

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**

- Source sector-specific verification **protocols**

- BMP verification **panel**

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)

April 2012

Preliminary draft BMP verification principles and protocols

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

Proposed 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

Requests for the Ag Workgroup

- Building on the six jurisdictions' work with the NACD, develop verification protocols that make sense for the crop and animal agricultural production in the Bay watershed <u>and</u> will achieve the verification principles under development by the partnership

Requests for the Ag Workgroup

- Help the partnership identify the causes and how to address the acknowledged reluctance of many producers to share their non-cost shared practice data and allow conservation district personnel to verify practices in operation on their production areas

Requests for the Ag Workgroup

- Bring forward through the Ag Workgroup, discuss, and put your collective finger prints on how the partnership should address these additional elements of a partnership wide verification framework:

  - Fully accounting for federal cost shared practices

  - Preventing double counting

  - Commitment to cleaning up historical data

  - Building in life spans for conservation practices

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