

Data Sharing for States' Approval of Advanced Onsite Systems:

Project Status Update

Briefing for CBPO WWTWG

February 2, 2015





Background

- Began with Onsite Model Program for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
- Developed whitepaper on data sharing opportunities and constraints.
- Developed overview of Chesapeake Bay State approval processes.
- Productive discussions with state programs over the last year leading to bay wide testing protocols



Background

- Developed two protocols:
 - Initial Data Collection
 - Field Performance Verification (Test Plan)
- Based in general on NSF protocols
- Gaining general consensus with exceptions

Focus is on <u>DATA SHARING</u> not reciprocity



Process

- Efforts started with a common goal on restoring the Bay
- Regular bi-monthly meetings with Chesapeake Bay states over the past year
- Effort awareness at various conferences and meetings
- Discussion with NSF International, Inc.
- Discussion with NOWRA and the manufacturer community



Letter Agreement

- Informal 'Memorandum of Understanding' signed by one representative in each state
- Provides certainty to the manufacturing community that the data protocols will be accepted and used
- Validates the time and effort the states gave to collaborate on data sharing



Benefits of Data Sharing

- Improve the quality of data collected
- Accelerate the approval process and installation of advanced systems
- Reduce the burden on states to monitor and evaluate performance data
- Reduce the burden on manufacturers to test systems
- Reduce the cost of the system to the customer



Benefits of States Collaboration

- Some states have adopted more stringent requirements; updating regs
- Experienced states have provided guidance to states who are under or considering regulations review
- Process established better working relationships between the states
- Successful example of states collaborating together serves as a good model for the national stage



Final Steps

- Finalize the data collection protocols under state review
- Collaborate with Chesapeake Bay Program establish data collection/input process
- Event at the Chesapeake Bay Program Office to obtain signatures on the Letter Agreement (~ March-April); coordination with communications offices
 - Call with state on 2/5 to determine review status/progress; dates
 - Briefing OWM management on 2/10
 - Communicate to stakeholder community when ready to launch new protocols
- Ongoing collaboration between states and CBPO to store and retrieve onsite data