

**Watershed General Permit for Nutrient Trading (9VAC25-820) – 2016 Reissuance**  
**2nd TAC Meeting**  
**June 9, 2015, 10:00 am**  
**DEQ Piedmont Regional Office**

## **Minutes**

### **Attendees**

Allan Brockenbrough, DEQ-CO  
Alison Thompson, DEQ-NRO  
Dawn Jeffries, DEQ-VRO  
John Kennedy, DEQ-CO  
Bill Purcell, VMA  
Chris Pomeroy, VAMWA  
Jaime Mitchell, HRSD  
Andrea Wortzel, Troutman Sanders  
Rich Gullick, Rivanna WSA  
Jason Erickson, Dominion  
Chris Moore, Chesapeake Bay Foundation  
Patricia Gleason, EPA Region III  
Richard Street, Spotsylvania County  
Dana Fredericks, Hazen & Sawyer  
Bud Campbell, Aqua Virginia  
Anthony Moore, AES  
Chris French, Contech

### **Discussion**

John Kennedy provided an update of the Chlorophyll-a study and modeling effort on the James River.

Allan Brockenbrough reviewed changes to the draft regulation made in response to comments received to date. Major subjects addressed included:

#### Alternative #2 Total Phosphorus WLAs for the James River

Alternative #2 WLAs were presented to the TAC for discussion. Alternative No. 2 consists of reducing the Mead Westvaco WLA to recognize the season local TMDL on the Jackson River, reducing the HRSD WLAs to 0.5 mg/l for consistency with the municipal facilities in the Upper James and then applying an additional 102% reduction to ALL facilities except for Tysons and the Chickahominy WWTP. Both of these facilities are already limited by local water quality concerns in the Chickahominy watershed. Jaime Mitchell indicated that HRSD may need tertiary treatment at 1 to 3 WWTPs to meet the Alternative No. 2 aggregate WLA. Jason Ericson indicated that Dominion wanted to continue with their “net” WLAs despite reporting “gross” nutrient loads currently. Chris Pomeroy questioned whether there was time to wait for the completion of the Chlorophyll-a work before assigning reduced WLAs. If not, he requested

that we memorialize that backsliding would not be an issue if less stringent WLAs were ultimately determined to be appropriate.

#### Sample Type and Collection Frequency

The TAC discussed the increased sample frequencies included in the draft regulation. The proposal would double the sampling frequency for facilities in the 1.0 – 19.999 MGD and 0.04 – 0.999 MGD flow categories but also allow for compositing of samples to reduce analytical costs. Concerns were raised with whether or not the additional sampling was warranted. Most of the associated expense is in the sampling rather than analytical work. Some TAC members took exception with the conclusions of the EPA Technical Memorandum on sampling frequency. Others indicated that the increase frequency and allowance for compositing struck a reasonable balance. A suggestion was made that it may be appropriate to split up the above flow categories into smaller increments and increase the frequency on the higher ranges only. Staff agreed to evaluate this idea prior to the next TAC meeting.

#### Nitrogen Quantification Levels

The TAC generally supported the proposed QLs for TKN (0.50 mg/l), Nitrite (0.10 mg/l), Nitrate (0.50 mg/l) and Nitrite + Nitrate (0.50 mg/l). HRS D indicated that they typically achieve a QL of 0.2 mg/l for Nitrite + Nitrate.

#### Nonpoint Source Trading Ratios < 2:1

Proposed changes addressing language allowing potential NPS-to-PS trading ratios of less than 2:1 were discussed. Chris Moore indicated that CBF may provide some minor wording changes. A provision had been added so that any proposed ratio less than 2:1 would be included in the public notice advertisement. Chris Pomeroy indicated that VAMWA thought it was important to include this possibility in the event of any unconventional yet well document reductions (e.g. treating river water, etc.) are proposed.

The TAC agreed to provide any additional comments on the proposed regulation to DEQ staff by June 19, 2015.