

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Attorney General Richmond 23219

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July 21, 2004

The Honorable Robert G. Burnley, Director Virginia Department of Environmental Quality 629 East Main Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

Re: Authority to Promulgate Amendments to the Water Quality Management Planning Regulations;

9 VAC 25-720-50.A and 90.A.

Dear Director Burnley:

I have reviewed the above-referenced amendments. It is my opinion that the State Water Control Board has authority to promulgate such amendments under applicable law, including Chapter 3.1 of Title 62.1 of the Code of Virginia. Based on your agency's representations, it is my opinion that the requirements of § 2.2-4006.A.4.c have been satisfied and are therefore exempt from the operation of Article 2 of the Administrative Process Act, §§ 2.2-4006 *et seq.* of the Code of Virginia.

If I may be of any further assistance to you relating to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rick R. Linker Assistant Attorney General Environmental Unit