

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 N. Capitol Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002**

**RESOLUTION CONCERNING ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING COMPOUNDS AND
PHARMACEUTICALS IN THE POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED**

WHEREAS, endocrine disrupting compounds and other “emerging contaminants,” including pharmaceuticals and personal care products, have been identified in waters throughout the United States including the Potomac River; and

WHEREAS, recent studies by the U.S. Geological Survey have identified adverse effects on certain fish species resident in the Potomac; and

WHEREAS, potential sources of these contaminants are highly diverse and include agricultural, urban stormwater runoff, and wastewater sources; and

WHEREAS, since its inception in 2004, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) has been actively engaged with a consortium of federal and state agencies and water suppliers formed the Potomac Drinking Water Source Protection Partnership (Partnership) pledging “vigilance and cooperation” in meeting “emerging challenges and ensuring a reliable (water) supply for the future;” and

WHEREAS, in October, 2006, the COG adopted Resolution R46-06, underscoring its concerns regarding the impacts of such compounds on the endocrine systems of living organisms and emphasizing the need for further research on the possible public health effects; and

WHEREAS, systematic monitoring, research and analysis is critical to determining amounts, sources and risks posed by such contaminants and is essential in addressing solutions; and

WHEREAS, public awareness and education is an important part of any program for pollution prevention and control.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:**

1. The Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (CBPC) in cooperation with COG’s Health Directors Committee, Public Information Officers, the Partnership and the region’s water and wastewater utilities are directed to prepare recommendations for:
 - Enhancing public awareness, focused on interpretation of scientific information, as well as advice concerning proper disposal of unused medications and household hazardous waste;
 - Tracking and reporting on the relevant efforts of EPA, USGS and other agencies and national professional organizations including recent workshops;
 - Hosting or cooperating in conducting information exchange workshops;
 - Supporting collaborative efforts by regional water treatment plants to conduct additional monitoring, testing, and reporting; and
 - Assisting in obtaining additional funding for research and monitoring.
2. The CBPC shall present these recommendations to the COG Board of Directors at the June 2008 meeting.

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Nicole Hange, Board Clerk