

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 N. CAPITOL STREET, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20002

RESOLUTION APPLYING COG'S PRINCIPLES FOR REGIONAL WATER QUALITY
POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TO THE CHESAPEAKE BAY TMDL

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) has a long history of supporting policies and programs to achieve water quality goals for the Chesapeake Bay and the Potomac River; and

WHEREAS, local governments and wastewater utilities in the COG region are responsible for implementing policies and programs to restore and protect the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries; and

WHEREAS, in Resolution R20-09, the Board established four policy principles to guide COG's perspective on Chesapeake Bay programs and policies addressing: (1) Holistic Requirements; (2) Equitable Responsibility; (3) Sound Science; and (4) Communication and Voice; and

WHEREAS, on September 24, 2010, the Environmental Protection Agency published a Chesapeake Bay Draft Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) to set target nutrient (phosphorus and nitrogen) and sediment loads for 92 tidal segments over the entire 64,000-square-mile Chesapeake Bay watershed to achieve water quality standards; and

WHEREAS, in early September, the Bay watershed states and the District of Columbia issued draft Phase I Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) to describe how each intends to achieve and maintain those targets and provide "reasonable assurance" that 60% of the implementation targets will be achieved by 2017, and 100% will be met by 2025; and

WHEREAS, the period to provide comments on the EPA TMDLs and state/District of Columbia Phase 1 WIPs extends through November 8, 2010; and

WHEREAS, final Phase I WIPs will be due by November 29, 2010, draft Phase II WIPs by 2011, and final Phase III WIPs in 2017; and

WHEREAS, the potential program and cost implications for the wastewater, urban stormwater and agricultural sectors are significant and it is in the interest of the COG region, its member governments and utilities to help shape the final version of the TMDLs and the WIPs by providing detailed comments and recommendations.

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

1. The attached Policy Statement on the draft Bay TMDLs and WIPs is hereby adopted; and
2. The Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee is authorized to prepare and submit comments and recommendations, with appropriate guidance from the Policy Statement, to EPA and the states.

COPY TESTE:

Nicole Hange, Board Clerk