

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL
401 CHURCH STREET
6TH FLOOR L&C ANNEX
NASHVILLE, TN 37243

February 10, 2010

TO: Tennessee Qualified Local Program Advisory Committee

RE: December 8, 2009 Meeting Summary

Good Day,

Once again, we want to extend our appreciation for your continued participation in our Qualified Local Program (QLP) Advisory Committee meeting held on December 8, 2009. Over the last two years, we have worked through numerous potential incentives and we now have a short list of realistic incentives and guidelines to attract the participation of prospective QLPs.

During this 4th quarterly meeting, the opening conversation revolved around the new MS4 permit which was originally scheduled to be issued June 2009, but is now scheduled to be on Public Notice in February 2010 and issued June 2010. The group was concerned that the delay of permit issuance would be a time constraint in the ability of the MS4 to successfully integrate QLP requirements and become Pilots.

We recognize that it is important to the success of this grant to provide the MS4s time to revise their programs and enable a full pilot period. We have spoken with EPA over a time extension and they concurred with our concerns and are positioned to grant us a two year extension. This new timeline projects the QLP Pilot start date for June 2012 and the QLP Program to go live in June 2013. Please see attached Timeline document.

The ensuing discussion then turned to our efforts at assessing QLP Grant Project Effectiveness. We discussed the process we've taken to develop the QAPP with EPA's assistance and explained that the QAPP will include a survey that may be delivered multiple times. In an effort to collect the most beneficial data, the group recommended that we perform a preliminary, interim, and final survey.

Our attention was then directed to the finalized versions of the following summarized QLP Incentives:

a. Construction General Permit fee split with QLP – Finalized



- b. QLP status considered equivalent to program effectiveness monitoring – Finalized
- c. Standardized TDEC/ QLP Enforcement Protocol – Finalized
- d. MS4's applying for QLP Status will have to show that the necessary resources will be provided - Finalized
- e. QLP Status Requirements guaranteed Static – Finalized
- f. Streamlining QLP Procedures – Finalized

Please see the accompanying document *Final QLP Incentives* for summaries of each incentive.

After the QLP Incentives discussion, we initiated the development of a “QLP Recognition and Awards” program. Multiple examples were discussed, included recognition ceremonies by the Commissioner with QLP Mayors, or additional points being added to state grant or loan applications. Please submit other awards/ideas you may have before the next meeting.

It is expected that the QLP Stakeholder Advisory Group will continue, at a minimum, to help with the development of the QLP program through the pilot phase and final rollout. In addition, we intend for the Committee to provide stakeholder representation on future stormwater permits and guidance development efforts.

Our next meeting is scheduled in Nashville for **May 5, 2010**, from 10am -1 pm Central Time on the 17th floor of the L&C Tower. We will be sending you an Agenda in the near future.

Thank you again for your participation and the valuable input you provided to this Committee. If you have any questions please contact Robert Karesh or John Chlarson.

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