

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



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

September 22, 2008

TO: Tennessee Qualified Local Program Advisory Committee

RE: Kick-Off Meeting Summary

Good Afternoon,

We want to extend our sincere appreciation for your participation at our QLP Advisory Committee Kickoff Meeting held on August 15, 2008. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) is very pleased that you became part of a history-making process when you participated in this meeting. This is an exciting time for Tennesseans in the environmental arena, as we move forward together in this innovative effort to protect and improve water quality in our state. We are encouraged and excited by the level of participation and the future possibilities of a successful Qualified Local Program initiative in Tennessee.

At the kickoff meeting, we briefly described the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) and the Tennessee Construction General Permit (TNCGP) programs. The inherent overlap between these two permits often leads to redundancies for all those who operate under both permits. As you may recall from our meeting, Federal storm water regulations allow for streamlining and coordination among state and local programs, particularly relating to the regulation of construction site runoff. Under CFR 122.44(s), TDEC can formally recognize a local government's storm water program as a Qualified Local Program (QLP) that has been shown to meet or exceed the provisions of the construction general permit.



TDEC hopes that this Advisory Committee, which includes members from the municipalities as well as the regulated community and environmental groups, will thoughtfully explore all possibilities and consider potential benefits and incentives to ensure the success of this program. We took an important first step together in the process of developing the State of Tennessee's Qualified Local Program with our QLP Stakeholder Committee Kickoff Meeting. EPA is interested in the results of our research and hopes to rollout similar programs across the nation.

At the meeting, we did discuss some potential incentives that TDEC could provide to the MS4s to consider applying for QLP status (Attachemnt 1). We would like you to consider how a QLP program would benefit

your organization and what you could offer the MS4s, in turn, to consider applying for QLP status. Please review the attached survey and return to [Jennifer.Watson@state.tn.us](mailto:Jennifer.Watson@state.tn.us) by October 10, 2008.

Our next Advisory Kickoff Meeting will be held on October 29, 2008, at the Fleming Training Center in Murfreesboro.

