

AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM #12: FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A. VAPDC ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE

The Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions will be holding its Summer Conference at the Cavalier at the Beach from July 29 – 31, 2010. Registration is now open for this event at: www.vapdc.org. Invited speakers include Gov. McDonnell; Sean Connaughton, Secretary of Transportation; James Cheng, Secretary of Commerce & Trade; The Honorable Mary Rae Carter, Deputy Secretary of Commerce & Trade for Rural Development; and Senator Frank Ruff and Delegate Glen Oder of the Virginia General Assembly. Mr. Bruce Goodson has been nominated to a position on the VAPDC's Board of Directors for the 2010-2011 term.

B. CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION EFFORTS

Attached for information is a June 3, 2010 Press Release from Governor McDonnell describing highlights and goals for Virginia's work on the Chesapeake Bay Restoration efforts.

Attachment

C. OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF (OCS) LEASE SALE

Attached for information is a May 27, 2010 Press Release from Governor McDonnell including his statement in response to the White House cancellation of Outer Continental Shelf Lease Sale 220 off the coast of Virginia

Attachment

D. GREEN JOBS ALLIANCE WEATHERIZATION GRANT

Attached for information is June 4, 2010 release from the U.S. Department of Energy announcing that the Green Jobs Alliance has been awarded \$981,260 to establish a weatherization training center in Hampton Roads.

Attachment

From: Governors Update Mailing List <govupdate@governor.virginia.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 1:33 PM
To: list, GovernorsUpdate mailing
Subject: Governor McDonnell Highlights Milestones in Chesapeake Bay Restoration Efforts



Commonwealth of Virginia
Office of Governor Bob McDonnell

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 3, 2010

Office of the Governor

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Governor McDonnell Highlights Milestones in Chesapeake Bay Restoration Efforts

Attends 2010 Chesapeake Executive Council Meeting in Baltimore

BALTIMORE – Governor Bob McDonnell joined the leaders of Chesapeake Bay watershed jurisdictions today for the 2010 Chesapeake Executive Council meeting in Baltimore and outlined the significant milestones Virginia has achieved in its efforts to restore the Bay.

Speaking about the Bay and Virginia's commitment to its restoration, Governor McDonnell noted, "The Chesapeake Bay is a national treasure and an ecological wonder. As Virginians we have an obligation to preserve and conserve this incredible resource, the largest estuary in the United States. That obligation is shared by all who live in the Chesapeake Bay watershed."

He continued, "The Bay belongs to all of us, but it means many different things to many

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different people. For some, it's their office; for others, their getaway. We fish there, play there, and work there. But our impact on the Bay is not limited to the time we spend on it and near it. What we do in our cities and counties, in many cases hours away, has a significant impact on the health of the Bay. That is one of the reasons I am committed to conserving an additional 400,000 acres of open space in the Commonwealth over the next four years. And it is why I'm looking forward to working closely with my fellow members of the Chesapeake Executive Council in the years ahead. We are all committed to ensuring a clean and vibrant Chesapeake Bay for future generations to enjoy and cherish. While we have taken numerous important steps, we recognize that the job is not complete and we continue to face the challenge of doing more in the future."

Governor McDonnell highlighted eight major areas of improvements that demonstrate some of the recent progress made in improving the health of the Bay. With the change in administrations, the outgoing administration announced it had exceeded its goal of preserving 400,000 acres in the state. Governor McDonnell is committed to preserving another 400,000 acres.

The past year also has brought successes beyond land conservation. By the end of the year nearly \$627 million had been committed to wastewater treatment upgrades, crab populations had increased to a 13 year high and new nutrient management regulations were in place. The 2010 Virginia General Assembly passed and Governor McDonnell approved a dedicated funding source for Chesapeake Bay cleanup efforts. An additional \$10 charge per land transaction to the state's recordation tax will go to the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund for installation of agricultural conservation best management practices. For this coming biennium that translates to \$9 million per year. Details on these successes and others are listed below.

Details on Virginia's Recent Chesapeake Bay Successes

Continued Progress with New Nutrient Removal Facilities - Twelve new Water Quality Improvement Fund grant agreements were signed this year to bring the total number of projects to 53, committing a total of almost \$627 million in state cost-share. Three plants brought their nutrient reduction systems on-line this year, bringing the total number of Bay dischargers operating with nutrient removal to 29. Based on the annual compliance plan (February 2010) for dischargers covered by the Virginia Chesapeake Bay Watershed Nutrient Discharge General Permit, projections show the total delivered nutrient loads will meet, or even be lower than, the waste load allocations in all basins for calendar year 2011.

Crab Population Boom - Crab numbers this past winter increased 60 percent from the previous year, marking the second straight year of growth. The increase is due to a landmark stock rebuilding program, including closure of the winter dredge fishery by the Virginia Marine Resources Commission and partner agencies. A winter survey conducted by Virginia and Maryland scientists estimates that the population has increased to 658 million crabs, the highest number in 13 years.

New Land Conservation Goal - Virginia met its self-imposed statewide land conservation goal of 400,000 acres over the past four years, preserving 424,103 acres as of winter 2010. Specific land conservation accomplishments include the creation of two new state parks, six new state forests and 13 natural area preserves, and parts of 13 Civil War battlefields were protected. Governor McDonnell has established a new goal to preserve an additional 400,000 acres over the next four years.

Nutrient Credit Exchange Program Established - Virginia has implemented an innovative Nutrient Credit Exchange Program previously adopted by the General Assembly to establish market-based incentives that streamline the nutrient reduction process.

Erosion and Sediment Control Local Program Reviews – Virginia has completed a five-year statewide review of all locally administered erosion and sediment control programs. Where local programs were found inconsistent with state law, corrective action agreements were completed and shortcomings corrected. As of March 2010, 155 or 94.5 percent of the programs have been found consistent with state law. Well run locally administered programs reduce the loss of sediments and other pollutants from active construction sites.

Advances in addressing NPS from agricultural sources – Use of targeted incentive funds through Virginia Agricultural BMP Cost-Share Program (VACS) continues to result in roughly 85 percent of available funds being used for implementation of the suite of five “priority practices” across the state. VACS funding for the year beginning July 1, 2010, will not be at levels appropriated for the two prior years. But for the first time ever, thanks to an action taken by the 2010 Virginia General Assembly, there is now a revenue source dedicated to VACS funding. The funding source originates from an increase in the fee for recording land transactions at the local level. Further enhancements in the collection of data for agricultural conservation include the ongoing improvements in a web-based BMP tracking program.

New Turf and Landscape Category of Nutrient Management Certification – Virginia has initiated a new category of Nutrient Management Planner Certification to better meet the needs of professionals developing nutrient management plans for urban/suburban developed lands, such as golf courses, office parks, public lands that receive nutrients, and areas treated by lawn service companies. The agriculture certification category has been offered since 1996 and has 329 certified planners. So far, 65 persons have become certified in the new turf and landscape category. Individuals must meet educational and experience requirements and pass a two-part examination to become certified.

Poultry Litter End User Regulation – New requirements on Virginia end-users of poultry litter became effective on January 1, 2010. The new regulations require enhanced tracking and accounting of poultry litter that is transferred from the farm where the litter is generated. End users are required to store and land apply poultry litter in accordance with the requirements outlined in the amended regulation, which address the proper rate and timing of applications as well as setbacks to environmentally sensitive features for land application and storage of poultry litter.

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From: Governors Update Mailing List <govupdate@governor.virginia.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 2:57 PM
To: list, GovernorsUpdate mailing
Subject: Statement of Governor Bob McDonnell on President's Offshore Energy Decision



Commonwealth of Virginia
Office of Governor Bob McDonnell

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 27, 2010

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Statement of Governor Bob McDonnell on President's Offshore Energy Decision

RICHMOND- Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell issued the following statement today, following the President's announcement that the White House is cancelling Lease Sale 220 off the coast of Virginia. The lease sale was scheduled for 2012.

"The environmental disaster still unfolding in the Gulf of Mexico is unprecedented and devastating. The full attention of the federal government, as well as state and local governments and the private sector companies involved should appropriately be focused on permanently capping this leak and cleaning up the oil that has been spilled. The images from Louisiana and around the Gulf are stunning, and it will take significant time and resources to fully recover from this tragedy. The Commonwealth of Virginia is prepared to assist in those efforts, should our services be required or useful. I have previously called Governor Bobby Jindal to inform him of our willingness to help. He is doing excellent work in leading his state's response.

Similarly, it will take significant time to fully investigate and evaluate what took place at the Deepwater Horizon rig on April 20th and in the ensuing weeks. This accident must lead to necessary improvements in offshore exploration and drilling technology and safety, and the implementation of new safeguards and regulations moving forward. This process will make it difficult to move forward with the lease sale currently scheduled off the coast of Virginia in 2012. Thus, I understand the decision the

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President has made today. While I respect his decision, and the need for delay and investigation, I do not believe outright cancellation was the only alternative given the fact that this sale was not due to occur until two years from now, and actual drilling would likely take place years after that. The two-year environmental impact statement already underway would provide ample information about the wisdom of proceeding on to an actual lease sale.

It is my hope that the President's action does not signal the end of offshore energy exploration and production off Virginia in the years ahead. Once we have learned the lessons from this tragic accident, and made the necessary changes and improvements in the offshore industry and government oversight, we should move forward with environmentally responsible domestic offshore energy production for oil and natural gas. This nation needs more domestic energy production. If we decrease the amount of energy produced here in the United States, we will only increase the amount of energy we must import from overseas. We must have the foresight and objectivity to not let this tragic accident cripple our ability to increase energy production in the United States. That would be a tragedy in its own right.

Just as Americans did not quit or retreat from innovation after tragedies in space exploration, so must we learn, change and persevere in advancing energy independence by using all our natural resources. The spirit of American progress is to overcome adversity and conquer obstacles, not quit and accept failure. Our nation needs domestic energy production and the jobs and security that come with it. I am a strong proponent of a comprehensive energy policy for Virginia and America. We should greatly increase our domestic production and utilization of all energy sources. That includes offshore and onshore wind, coal, solar, nuclear, biofuels, waste to energy, natural gas and, with the appropriate improvements in the industry incorporated moving forward, offshore oil and gas. I have great confidence in American ingenuity, intelligence and innovation, and our ability to properly and reasonably move forward following this major setback.”

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DOE Announces \$29 Million in Recovery Act Awards for Weatherization Training Centers

June 04, 2010

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced today that 34 projects in 27 states have been selected to receive \$29 million under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to develop and expand weatherization training centers across the country. These projects will provide green job training for local workers in energy efficiency retrofitting and weatherization services. With this training, skilled workers can help expand the use of energy efficient practices in America's homes and businesses.

"A well-trained workforce will be a crucial part of America's clean energy economy in the years ahead," said Deputy Secretary of Energy Daniel Poneman. "These investments in efficiency training programs will help build a foundation for long-term growth in America. Energy efficiency improves the competitiveness of our economy, benefits the environment, and puts Americans back to work."

Using innovative approaches to weatherization training and standardized training curricula, these projects will help prepare weatherization workers, supervisors, and inspectors to maintain a high degree of quality in weatherization projects and to work in the growing field of energy efficiency retrofits. The centers and programs will offer training using a combination of classroom, online, and hands-on learning tools.

This funding will support the expansion of 8 existing weatherization training centers and the establishment of 26 new training centers, more than tripling the number of DOE-funded weatherization training centers nationally. The 34 programs announced today will significantly expand access to weatherization training, while improving the quality and consistency of training nationwide. These investments will continue to build on the Administration's efforts to expand the green workforce and build a self-sustaining energy retrofit industry that creates high-quality jobs, while improving the environment and saving energy.

Under the Recovery Act, the Obama Administration is making unprecedented investments that are helping to build America's clean energy future, including \$5 billion to significantly ramp up the pace of weatherization in the United States. The training programs announced today will support a range of public and private energy efficiency efforts, including the Department's Weatherization Assistance Program, which has already funded the weatherization of nearly 200,000 homes since last February, using both Recovery Act and annual program funds.

These weatherization training centers are part of the Department's broader Training and Technical Assistance program for weatherization, including a variety of online tools, a national training platform, certification and accreditation standards, program evaluations, quality assurance reviews, and peer mentoring.

The following organizations have been selected for funding:

Applicant	Recovery Act Funding	Total Project Value*	City	State
Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska	\$961,692	\$1,159,212	Juneau	Alaska
Pulaski Technical College	\$1,000,000	\$1,244,507	North Little Rock	Arkansas
FSL Home Improvements	\$525,692	\$657,137	Phoenix	Arizona
Los Angeles Trade-Technical College	\$725,976	\$907,470	Los Angeles	California
Century Center for Economic Opportunity, Inc.	\$1,000,000	\$1,310,000	Gardena	California
Colorado Governor's Energy Office	\$963,130	\$1,219,149	Denver	Colorado
The WorkPlace, Inc.	\$442,951	\$562,951	Bridgeport	Connecticut
University of Central Florida	\$486,000	\$607,500	Cocoa	Florida
University of Florida	\$979,421	\$1,224,674	Gainesville	Florida

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WorkNet Pinellas, Inc.	\$1,000,000	\$1,726,000	St. Petersburg	Florida
Southface Energy Institute	\$949,078	\$1,422,903	Atlanta	Georgia
The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois	\$959,635	\$1,199,544	Champaign	Illinois
Wilbur Wright College	\$1,000,000	\$1,200,000	Chicago	Illinois
Indiana Community Action Association, Inc.	\$1,000,000	\$1,250,000	Indianapolis	Indiana
Kentucky Housing Corporation	\$995,756	\$1,259,051	Frankfort	Kentucky
Louisiana Association of Community Action Partnerships, Inc.	\$797,250	\$956,700	Baton Rouge	Louisiana
South Middlesex Opportunity Council, Inc.	\$705,225	\$1,049,515	Framingham	Massachusetts
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth	\$964,215	\$1,268,644	Dartmouth	Massachusetts
Baltimore City Community College	\$1,000,000	\$1,254,664	Baltimore	Maryland
Maine State Housing Authority (MaineHousing)	\$880,010	\$1,086,720	Augusta	Maine
Focus: HOPE	\$848,172	\$1,061,565	Detroit	Michigan
State of Montana	\$970,099	\$1,215,426	Helena	Montana
Bergen County Community Action Partnership, Inc.	\$999,567	\$1,275,103	Hackensack	New Jersey
New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority	\$919,579	\$919,579	Santa Fe	New Mexico
Association for Energy Affordability, Inc.	\$873,617	\$1,102,398	New York	New York
Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development Inc.	\$999,846	\$1,249,846	Athens	Ohio
Oregon Energy Coordinators Association	\$1,000,000	\$2,923,000	Salem	Oregon
Pennsylvania College of Technology	\$916,981	\$1,163,972	Williamsport	Pennsylvania
Bucks County Community College	\$631,260	\$757,512	Newtown	Pennsylvania
Governor's Office of Economic Development	\$323,700	\$438,700	Clearfield	Utah
Green Jobs Alliance	\$981,260	\$1,511,260	Hampton	Virginia
Community Housing Partners Corporation	\$1,000,000	\$1,300,000	Christiansburg	Virginia
Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation	\$255,198	\$318,998	Madison	Wisconsin
West Virginia Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity	\$1,000,000	\$1,250,000	Charleston	West Virginia

*Includes applicant cost share

For project descriptions, please see the WAP Training Descriptions document ([PDF 45.5 KB](#)). For more information on the Weatherization Assistance Program, visit the [Weatherization Assistance Program](#) Web site.

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