

AGENDA NOTE - HRPDC ANNUAL RETREAT

ITEM #10: WATER RESOURCE STUDIES

SUBJECT:

Two water resources issues will continue to be of paramount importance to Hampton Roads: Groundwater Resource Management and TMDL Water Quality.

BACKGROUND:

Over the past year, the Commission and localities have devoted considerable effort to addressing the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. Local implementation of strategies and practices will proceed during the next fiscal year. Concurrently, there is a need to continue working with the state and EPA to refine the Chesapeake Bay model and various permitting strategies. Additional TMDL work to address local water quality issues is likely to receive renewed attention. EPA has proposed an integrated planning process to allow local governments to prioritize wastewater and stormwater improvements.

At the February 2011 Annual Retreat, the Commission directed the staff to pursue development of a regional policy for allocating the ground water resource among competing public and private groundwater users. This issue is likely to receive renewed attention from the state as it moves forward to finalize revisions to the state's groundwater permitting regulations and addresses applications for renewed permits to withdraw groundwater.

Ms. Whitney Katchmark, Principal Water Resources Engineer, will provide an overview of these continuing issues. She will also highlight HRPDC resources that could be utilized in locality specific studies.