

February 28, 2019

Memorandum #2019-33

TO: Regional Environmental Committee Members

BY: Whitney Katchmark, HRPDC Principal Water Resources Engineer

RE: Regional Environmental Committee Meeting - March 7, 2019

The next meeting of the **HRPDC Regional Environmental Committee** will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 7, 2019** in the **HRPDC Board Room, The Regional Building, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake**. The agenda and related materials are attached.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachments

MS/cm

**AGENDA
MEETING OF THE
HAMPTON ROADS REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
MARCH 7, 2019
10:00 A.M.**

1. Summary of the February 6, 2019 Meeting of the Hampton Roads Regional Environmental Committee (REC).

The summary and attendance sheets of the above meeting are attached.

Attachments: 1A – February REC Meeting Summary
1B – February REC Meeting Attendance

ACTION: Accept the Meeting Summary

2. Public Comments

3. Plastics and Microplastics: In the World's Oceans and in the Chesapeake Bay

Dr. Fred Dobbs, Professor and Chair in the Department of Ocean, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences at ODU, will discuss the phenomenon of plastics and microplastics in oceans and estuaries and the nature of the problems they engender. He will brief the Committee on the few data available on the concentration of plastics and microplastics in Chesapeake Bay and summarize his group's research on microplastics and the bacteria that colonize their surfaces. Dr. Dobbs will conclude by asking whether there potentially is a public-health risk associated with consumption of shellfish that have concentrated microplastics through their suspension feeding.

ACTION: None required

4. Hampton Roads Active Transportation Update

Mr. Steve Lambert, Transportation Planner, will update the Committee on the Linking Hampton Roads study, Birthplace of America Trail, South Hampton Roads Trail and the newly formed Tidewater Trail Alliance.

ACTION: None required

5. Volkswagen Settlement and Water Quality

Volkswagen sold approximately 590,000 vehicles (16,000 in Virginia) that were equipped with computer software designed to underreport during federal emissions testing, which violated the Clean Air Act. To mitigate the impact, Volkswagen agreed to pay \$16.35 billion. The Commonwealth of Virginia was allocated \$93.6M in the settlement. DEQ submitted the [Beneficiary Mitigation Plan](#) ("Plan") in August 2018, which includes the goals for the use of mitigation funds, categories of eligible projects, potential beneficial impacts, anticipated NO_x emission reductions, and the process for consideration of public input. An ancillary goal of the Plan is to reduce nitrogen loads to

the Chesapeake Bay in support of the Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP). HRPDC staff will provide an overview of Virginia's approach to considering the impact of the mitigation projects on nitrogen loads to the Bay, as described in the attached white paper.

Attachment: 05A_Influence of Volkswagen Settlement Agreements on Chesapeake Water Quality

ACTION: None required

6. Legislative Wrap Up

The Virginia General Assembly Session adjourned on February 23, 2019. HRPDC staff will discuss the bills of interest that passed and those that failed.

ACTION: None required

7. Other Matters

Regional Environmental Committee – Voting:

Chesapeake
Barbara Brumbaugh
John Harbin

James City
Vacant
Michael Woolson

Smithfield
Wayne Griffin
William Saunders

Windsor
Vacant
Vacant

Franklin/Southampton
Donald E. Goodwin
Beth Lewis, AICP

Newport News
Vacant
Allison Watts

Suffolk
David Parks
Erin Rountree

York
Joseph Brogan
Anna Drake

Gloucester
Vacant
Vacant

Norfolk
Justin Shafer
June Whitehurst

Surry
Vacant
Vacant

Hampton
David Imburgia
Greta Hawkins

Poquoson
Dannan O’Connell
Ellen Roberts, PE

Virginia Beach
Melanie Coffey
Diana St. John

Isle of Wight
Kim Hummel
Melissa Lindgren

Portsmouth
Meg Pittenger
Thomas Quattlebaum

Williamsburg
Heather Markle
Aaron Small

Regional Environmental Committee – Non-Voting:

HRSD
Jamie Mitchell
Kevin M. Parker
Jennifer Reitz

Tara Fisher
Brian Powell
Phillip S. Winslow, Jr.
Will Hunley

USGS
Mark Bennett

VDF

NASA Langley

NOAA
Andrew Larkin

VDCR
Arthur M. Kirkby

VDOT
Jennifer Dail
Andrew B. Scott

Navy
Sarah E. Diebel

SWCD
Stacey Bradshaw
Tara Outland-Williams
Jim Wallace

VDEQ
Noah Hill
John Kennedy
Elizabeth Polak

VDOF
Molly O’Liddy

JCC
Trevor Long