



Chesapeake Bay Program
Watershed Technical Workgroup (WTWG)
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 7, 2021
10:00 AM to 11:30 AM
Calendar Page: [Link](#)

Summary of Actions and Decisions

Decision: WTWG approved the November meeting minutes.

Action: WTWG postponed decision on the December minutes till February due to technical difficulties on CBP website (could not access minutes without error message).

Action: WTWG members should submit any additional feedback on the NEIEN portal in CAST to Jess Rigelman.

Agenda

10:00 AM – **Introductions and Announcements** – Cassandra Davis, NYSDEC (15 min.)

- Approval of November and December Meeting Minutes
 - **Decision:** WTWG approved the November meeting minutes.
 - **Action:** WTWG postponed decision on the December minutes till February due to technical difficulties on CBP website (could not access minutes without error message).
- Other announcements
 - *Kevin Du Bois:* EPA has asked us to provide an assessment of progress. What format should this be in?
 - *Jeff Sweeney:* EPA does not do a formal review in the interim progress. All that is done is the 2020 progress scenario. When the latest WIPs were evaluated we asked for tables regarding BMP implementation.
 - *Kevin Du Bois:* there is a deadline for federal facilities to provide an interim report on progress. What format does EPA want that assessment in? We submitted that table with the various milestones- can we add a column and place our comments here?
 - *Jeff Sweeney:* that's organized by Suzanne Trevena and I will ask her specifically what she is looking for and make sure you receive that information.
 - *Matt English:* we do a similar process to what you are describing and use a table.
 - *Cassie Davis:* we do the same thing and use our milestone table and add another column and this is what we submit to EPA.
 - *Gregorio Sandi:* I was under the impression that we didn't have to a formal evaluation?
 - *Jeff Sweeney:* that's correct, There, are still some steps that need to be completed with your (two acronyms I didn't catch). I am going to double check with Suzanne.

10:15 AM – **Schedule for 2020 Progress and Associated Verification** – Jeff Sweeney, EPA

Jeff will go over the schedule for the 2020 Progress assessment, including verification.

Discussion:

Olivia Devereux: Jess and I will continue to run NEIEN and CAST reports each Friday until the 2020 progress is finalized. In the email I send tomorrow. I will remind everyone of that. The 1/1/2020 date is important because that is the one that Jeff is using for the first round of verification which he will provide to states tomorrow (*correction:* will be Monday). In the meantime, you can see updates in the weekly reports Jess runs on Friday afternoon.

Ted Tesler: If we submitted

Jeff Sweeney: everything that we received after January 1st is. We will send you the results of the analysis and

Olivia Devereux: we will continue to do runs every Friday afternoon and are you still on track to finish the verification by Friday?

Jeff Sweeney: Honestly, I probably won't have it done by Monday.

Kevin Du Bois: are the credit reports we provide to the EPA used to evaluate QAPPs?

Olivia Devereux: these are things discussed in Federal Facilities WG, they have put together reports that shows the number of practices reported by each federal agency and the number of practices credited for each federal agency and the numbers are generally not the same. So, you are trying to figure out what Jeff does with that information?

Kevin Du Bois: if I understood what he just said is that they use that information from progress to assess the QAPPs. If they identify these mismatches between DoD data and the jurisdictions is that used to determine if there needs to be a different way to submit data?

Jeff Sweeney: generally, are analysis doesn't get that detailed. If there is an issue because your data isn't going through that is really a chronic issue, we would get involved through the Federal Facilities WG.

Kevin Du Bois: I am not suggesting there is a chronic issue for all federal facilities, my comments are solely restricted to DoD.

Jeff Sweeney: so, what you call the credit reports, you are talking specific to DoD.

Kevin Du Bois: Yes, and those are provided to EPA every year as well.

10:45 AM – Discussion of CAST 2021 Items – Cassandra Davis, NYSDEC and Jeff Sweeney, EPA

Cassie and Jeff will lead the continuing discussion of updates to the next version of the model, CAST 2021.

Discussion:

Jess Rigelman: Clarification to slide 28: We need to follow along with the Land use WG and how they define the land use. Part of that is that animals are used to define the feed space land use but if the definition changes then this may change too.

11:15 AM – Feedback on NEIEN Portal in CAST – Jess Rigelman, J7 and All Jurisdictions

Jess Rigelman will lead a discussion about the NEIEN portal on CAST.

Discussion:

Alana Hartman: I just used it for the basic submission report, and it worked just fine. I don't have any

Cassie Davis: I am echoing Alana's sentiments

Ted Tesler: I found the interface to be user friendly and easy to understand. The one thing I am wondering about is a lot of times when we have made the correction and see it through the node, I am finding I have to wait till Friday to see if those corrections went through. Is there a way to get the validation report and not have to wait for the full run? Or are those are connected?

Jess Rigelman: Are you asking whether or not your xml went through or the NEIEN validation report?

Ted Tesler: Well, I guess it's the NEIEN validation report. It would be nice to see that the correction went through.

Jess Rigelman: So basically, you want to see if, let's say you fixed the units to a BMP submission, those corrections went through.

Ted Tesler: yes.

Jess Rigelman: Okay that's a slightly different report, but we can do that. Just reach out to me and I can get that to you.

Olivia Devereux: When Jess says it's a strain on the server, it just means that everything goes a little slower (CAST scenarios, etc.). So, when those requests come through, Jess normally thinks through how many people are on the server already and it is something that is being addressed.

Jess Rigelman: if you have any additional comments, submit them through CAST (best way to reach them).

Olivia Devereux: I will put the link in the in the chat box so that everyone has it (Crosswalk with USDA, NEIEN, and CAST, at bottom of page here: <https://cast.chesapeakebay.net/Documentation/BMPs>).

Action: WTWG members should submit any additional feedback on the NEIEN portal in CAST to Jess Rigelman.

11:30 AM – Meeting Adjourn

Next Meeting: February 4, 2021 from 10:00 to 12:00

Call Participants

Matt English, DOEE

Clint Gill, DNREC

Elizabeth Hoffman, MDA

Jason Keppler, MDA

Cassie Davis, NYSDEC

Emily Dekar, USC

Ted Tesler, PA DEP

Lisa Beatty, PA DEP

Bill Keeling, VA DEQ

Alana Hartman, WV DEP

Jeff Sweeney, EPA

Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting

Sucharith Ravi, UMCES

Jess Rigelman, J7
Kevin Du Bois, DoD
Gregorio Sandi, MDE
Arianna Johns, VA DEQ
Jessica Rodriguez, DoD
Sarah Lane, UMCES
Loretta Collins, UMD