



Policy and Outreach Workgroup

June 3, 2010 2:00 PM

Workgroup Members Present: Linda Broach (TCEQ), Bob Stokes (GBF), Scott Jones (GBF), Nicole Hausler (POHA); Steve Hupp (HCPHES); Gerhard Meinecke (Public – by phone), Lisa Miller-Marshall (GBF)

Public Meetings

Three public meetings will be held in July to update the TMDL stakeholders on the progress of the workgroups. The list of management measures from each workgroup will be discussed as well as the timeline for the next year. Members were asked to notify people about the meetings. The schedule for the meetings is:

July 20, 2010 at Flower Garden (NOAA) in Galveston at 7:00 pm

July 21, 2010 at American Legion Hall in Anahuac at 7:00 pm

July 22, 2010 at Clear Lake Park Meeting Room in Seabrook at 7:00 pm

Discussion: Gerhard Meinecke called in with several issues that he wanted discussed during the workgroup meeting. They are:

- A proposal to double the bacteria count. Do we want to address this in some way?
- What are cruise ships doing with their sewage?
- Redundancy at WWTFs in cases of power outages
- Gerhard will be meeting with Commissioner Yarborough in two weeks. What would we like him to discuss concerning the oyster waters TMDL project?

Three of the workgroups submitted ideas for possible management measures to the Policy and Outreach Workgroup for their input and help in implementation. The suggestion was made that each of the workgroups needs to re-examine their ideas to determine if the Policy and Outreach Workgroup is the best group to implement the management measures. If the P&O workgroup is responsible for the implementation, the originating workgroup must get them detailed information to ensure the P&O group understands the issue.

The group would also like to get more information about the implementation plan process:

- What are the benefits of having a management measure in the plan?

- What are the repercussions for having a management measure in the plan?
- Is the plan accepted as a whole or can it be accepted in parts?
- What happens when a management measure is named in the plan but is not implemented?
- What happens if a management measure is not successful in reducing the bacteria concentration?
- Is the goal only to develop the measures at this point or can the stakeholders begin to make changes before the I-Plan is accepted?

Next meeting: June 30, 2010 at 2:00 PM

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