
From: Capacasa, Jon <Capacasa.jon@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 12:45 PM
To: anacostia
Cc: Keith.Anderson@dc.gov; Hamid Karimi; paul.connor@dc.gov; Bill Matuszeski; Lueckenhoff, Dominique; Supplee, Gwendolyn; MacKnight, Evelyn; Howell, Amie
Subject: Re: Copy of AWCAC Letter-DC TMDL Related

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BMat -

Thank you for your March 11th letter on behalf of the Anacostia Watershed Citizens Advisory Committee regarding the coordination between EPA and the District Department of Environment (DDOE) concerning various plans to address chemical contaminants in the Anacostia River. Within EPA Region III, the Water Protection Division (WPD) and the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Division (HSCD) meet periodically to discuss the work being completed within both Divisions related to toxics within the Anacostia River watershed. Most recently, HSCD and WPD collaborated in reviewing and providing comments to DDOE on the Remedial Investigation Workplan that has been proposed to study contaminated sediments in the Anacostia. The WPD, HSCD and other Region III Offices plan to continue close coordination with our DDOE counterparts as the both the TMDL revisions and sediment studies move forward.

I will also note that in addition to TMDL and Sediment remediation plan coordination, EPA continues to provide close oversight of Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan implementation by DC Water and the District as well as oversight of the landmark MS4 storm water permit which WPD issued to the District and which DOE administers. As you know, both of these sets of implementation activities are incorporating substantial greening approaches to complement the necessary grey infrastructure to capture peak flows. Timely implementation of these requirements will yield substantial reductions in chemical contaminants to the river, so as to protect the river bottom from re-contamination after cleanups. Progress on both fronts has been strong and worth your full support from a source control and prevention standpoint.

In your letter, you also discussed concerns with the conditions for the storm events that EPA was monitoring. Both wet weather monitoring events exceeded the 0.5" rain event criteria. The November 27th, 2013 monitoring event had 2.2" of rain between November 26th-27th when the monitoring occurred. The January 12th, 2014 monitoring event had 1.44" of rain between January 11th-12th when the monitoring occurred. EPA plans to conduct further refined water quality monitoring in coordination with DDOE based on the results of the first round of monitoring to assist DDOE in development of the TMDL revisions. Because further monitoring still needs to be completed, followed by modeling, it is too soon to discuss what Waste Load Allocations for these TMDLs may look like. EPA and DDOE will continue to keep the Anacostia Restoration Watershed Partnership updated as these efforts move forward.

Feel free to contact us again as we have shared goals for the full restoration of the Anacostia River.

Jon

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