



# MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Angie Garcia, EPA Region III  
Helene Drago, EPA Region III

**FROM:** Melissa Chatham

**RE:** Review of the Approval Letter for the Catoctin Creek Sediment TMDL for the 2007 Submittal Year

**DATE:** September 10, 2009

MDE has reviewed the approval letter and decision rationale dated July 31, 2009 for the following TMDL:

Total Maximum Daily Load of Sediment in the Catoctin Creek Watershed, Frederick County, Maryland.

As a result of this review the following changes are requested:

### *Decision Rationale*

Page 2, the phrase “Process Water” should be removed from the heading for Table 3, and it should now read “Wasteload Allocations for Permitted Point Sources in the Catoctin Creek Watershed”, since the aggregate Stormwater Wasteload Allocation is included in this table as well as the individual facility Process Water Wasteload Allocations.

Page 3, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph, the Catoctin Creek watershed basin code is incorrect. The decision rational states the basin identification code is “02140303”, when it should state “02140305”.

Page 3, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph, 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence, “Biologic” in between “of” and Integrity” should be changed to “Biotic”.

Page 4, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph, the proportions that the various land use source categories comprise out of the total watershed sediment load are incorrect. The correct percent contributions are as follows: crop (74.4%), urban (9.5%), pasture (8.2%), forest (7.8%).

Page 4, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, the first sentence should read “There are no specific numeric criteria that quantify the impact of sediment on the aquatic health of non-tidal stream systems” instead of “There are no specific numeric criteria that quantify the impact of sediment on the aquatic health on the non-tidal stream systems”.

Page 4, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, we suggest moving the current 2<sup>nd</sup> to last sentence stating that “An overall reduction of 50.2% from current estimated sediment loads was required to meet the TMDL allocation and Maryland’s water quality standards” before the preceding sentence, which states “The current total sediment load from the Catoctin Creek watershed is 28,829.2 tons per year”.



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Page 6, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence, the phrase “process water” should be inserted in between “permitted” and “load”.

Page 6, fourth paragraph, second to last sentence the word “only” should be added to the end of the sentence.



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