

March 3, 2011

Element II – Determining the Current Capacity

-- Preliminary Guidance --

The Current Capacity analysis estimates the future pace of implementation based on current capacity, that is, resources. It also assesses current programs in terms of legal, regulatory, staffing, funding and technical capacity, which helps to identify opportunities for enhancements that could accelerate the pace of implementation. The assessment provides a foundation for evaluating strategy options for achieving the load reduction goals and will also support development of 2-year milestone commitments for 2012 and 2013:

1. The State will solicit information on the current pace of implementation for each of the major source sectors. Where the State already has information, it will seek local verification that the data is still current.
2. The State will also solicit descriptive information about local programs that have a role in reducing nutrients and sediments. In addition to documenting the major programs like MS4 stormwater, programs that support septic system upgrade and connections, and municipal waste treatment programs, this will prompt local governments to explore opportunities to begin considering reduction strategies from other local programs that the State might have overlooked in the Phase I WIP.
3. Following the data solicitation process, the State will feed back that information to the local partners in a draft report template format. Local partners will be offered an opportunity to enhance, revise and offer suggestions on the material and report template for the current capacity section. Based on feedback from across the State, a final template will be adopted and a preliminary draft of this section will be finalized with other local teams around June 2011.