

Dear Advisory Committee members:

Although we are reluctant to cancel two meetings in a row, both MDE and MDA feel that we are not ready for a discussion on any of the three major items currently under review: (1) Trading Manual; (2) framework for MDE regulations; and (3) Aligning for Growth.

We will be talking to US EPA on March 16 and do not expect to be able to present the committee members with a final draft manual that all (MDA, MDE, EPA) organizations support by the following Monday. As for proposed regulations, MDE and MDA would like to present the committee with at least outlines for the approach that we expect to take with the nutrient trading regulations. And any proposal for Aligning for Growth will be a joint effort between MDE, MDP, and MDA. In short, we can assure you that a number of internal meetings are happening, but we will not have a good product on either of the latter by March 20.

We appreciate your time and want to make sure it is spent productively. See you in May!

Lynn Buhl and Susan Payne