Stormwater and Development Workgroup Recommendations to the PA Chesapeake Bay Program Steering Committee Revised October 12, 2006

The issuance of all state and local permits and authorizations required by the land development approval process should be better coordinated to ensure overall compliance with state and local obligations, and to minimize financial risk to builders.

- 1. Establishing a trading program, which maximizes the generation of nutrient credits, requires the participation of all Commonwealth agencies. This is particularly the case for agencies, such as Department of Community and Economic Development, PennDOT, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and the Game Commission.
- 2. Baselines for trading need to be established for stormwater and development activities on agency-owned or managed, municipally owned, and privately owned lands. All of these entities may be able to generate credits through land management and other activities. As such, the department needs to define when the baselines for trading for agencies, municipalities, and developers.
- 3. The Pennsylvania Tributary Strategy Steering Committee should consider developing and implementing goals and objectives for fostering economic development and resource conservation within Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay watershed that would be included in an interagency agreement similar in concept to the Keystone Principles for Growth, Investment, and Resource Conservation but with guidelines specific to reducing nutrient impact to the Chesapeake Bay.
- 4. The Pennsylvania Tributary Strategy Steering Committee should actively encourage and support legislation that would specifically authorize municipal authorities to create watershed-based stormwater utilities that would be able to charge user fees, and manage and oversee local stormwater management facilities and practices.

- 5. To enhance continued operation and maintenance of post-construction stormwater BMPs, the Pennsylvania Tributary Strategy Steering Committee should support amendments to Pennsylvania's Municipal Planning Code that would extend allowed performance bond requirements for developers.
- 6. The Pennsylvania Tributary Strategy Steering Committee should support additional funding to develop and implement Stormwater Management Plans under Act 167 to enable local governments to better manage stormwater, reduce nutrient loading from runoff, and generate nutrient and sediment credits. These funds should be prioritized for use within the Chesapeake Bay watershed of Pennsylvania.
- 8. The Pennsylvania Tributary Strategy Steering Committee should assist DEP in improving the ability to track and account for existing urban stormwater management practices.
- 9. The Pennsylvania Tributary Strategy Steering Committee should routinely update and engage the appropriate entities at the Chesapeake Bay Program, such as the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee and Nutrient Subcommittee's Urban Stormwater Workgroup regarding new and revised BMPs and pollutant removal efficiencies, as appropriate.
- 10. The Stormwater Workgroup requests that it be authorized to continue to meet so that the recommendations presented in this list can be further examined. In addition, the Workgroup will examine several long-term issues; in particular, the challenge of achieving and maintaining nutrient and sediment cap loads given existing and projected land use within the watershed.