Appointment

From: Gary Kelman -MDE- [gary.kelman@maryland.gov]
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BCC: MDE-CR-Potomac-6090-20 [maryland.gov_313236333933@resource.calendar.google.com]; MDE-CA-Conference-Calling-Card [maryland.gov_313236343032@resource.calendar.google.com]

Subject: Agricultural Assessment Conference Call MDE/EPA Region 3
Location: MDE-CA-Conference-Calling-Card, MDE-CR-Potomac-6090-20 Outside parties CALL 410-537-4281

Start: 7/7/2014 2:30:00 PM
End: 7/7/2014 4:00:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

MDA and EPA will call 410-537-4281.

Region III has been tasked to conduct AFO/CAFO assessments for each of our states in order to fulfill commitments made in a settlement agreement with Chesapeake Bay Foundation. At this point, we have conducted reviews in Pennsylvania and Virginia, but we need to complete reviews in other Region III states by June 2015. We would like to discuss with you their scope and necessary logistics. The assessments will look at the federal and state regulatory programs, as well as the state voluntary programs, for livestock operations. The purpose of the assessments is to answer two questions: 1) How well the state programs align with the WIP commitments?; and 2) How effectively they are being implemented? The process that we intend to follow is similar to the Stormwater Assessments that we conducted a couple of years back. We will start off with a questionnaire, and then follow-up with interviews and file reviews. We will also be considering in our review permit review and compliance assurance activities that have been conducted in the past. As EPA has accepted the state WIPs, the metrics will be driven by the WIPs. It is not our intent to conduct another WIP approval process.

Gary as we will be looking at implementation at animal agriculture programs across the state, it would be good if we invited a contact from Maryland Department of Agriculture, as they will likely need to be involved in this exercise. If possible, would you mind identifying a contact we could work with and invite them to the call.

In order for these reviews to be conducted efficiently and to capture the full range of state activities, it is important that we work closely with you throughout the process. We would like to arrange a call with you and other relevant individuals at the state to discuss this assessment process in more detail. Particularly, we would like to discuss your ideas regarding what regional offices, conservation districts, other state agencies/departments, etc. we should include in this effort. We would also like to discuss coordination activities, namely, whether there is a central point of contact at the state with whom we can coordinate our efforts. Following the conference call, we would send the questionnaire to the point of contact to coordinate with the other state agencies as appropriate. If you could provide dates in the next two weeks to have this discussion, it would be appreciated. Mark Zolandz is leading these reviews.
View your event at
http://www.google.com/calendar/event?action=VIEW&eid=bXZkNGpwcDBqazg2cDlxdGY4N2QyaXFvMDggbWlsbGVyLmxpbmRhQGVwYS5nb3Y&tok=MjQjZ2FyeS5rZWxtYW5AbWFyeWxhbmQuZ292Njc3OGQ5N2Y3MTNlZTc0Zjk5MDA3MDU3ZGFiYjQ4OGUxZDk2MjU1Zg&ctz=America/New_York&hl=en.