Appendix G: Reporting and Verification Requirements for Trading

Trading Must Abide by the Requirements of COMAR 26.08.11

The following requirements support the reporting and verification portions of the regulation (COMAR 26.08.11) and must be followed for those either generating a marketable credit, or those who are trading/acquiring credits to meet the restoration requirements of this permit.

Additional Requirements for Facilities Generating a Marketable Credit:

1) Calculation of Credits. You must use assessment tools consistent with the Chesapeake Bay Program modeling tools and accepted by the Department to calculate credits. Any assumptions or backup data used in the calculation of credits must be maintained on-site.
2) Procedure for Certification. Your generated credits are not valid or tradable until placed on the Registry. The registration of the credits requires completion of a Certification and Registration Form as provided by the Department, which includes documentation that the generator either owns the property or has the permission of the landowner to install, access and maintain the BMP. Credits are only available for a trade when the Certification and Registration Form is completed and the credits are placed on the Registry. As a condition for the certification, you (and the landowner if different from the permittee) must agree in writing to provide the Department, the verifier, and their agent's access to the BMP during the lifespan of the credit. You are required to provide additional notification if the BMP changes or the ownership of the property changes.
3) Verification and Reporting Requirements. You shall ensure that all generated credits are verified in accordance with COMAR 26.08.11, which shall be no less than every 3 years. Verification of credits generated must be performed by a State or county inspector, a professional engineer registered in Maryland, or a Department approved verifier. Each report prepared by an inspector or verifier in accordance with B(2) of the regulation (COMAR 26.08.11) shall include documentation that the BMP implemented continues to meet baseline compliance and that the credit generating BMP continues to be operated and maintained in accordance with the trading contract. If deficiencies exist and resulting corrective measures are needed, you must immediately implement them or jeopardize your trade. You may be required to perform additional inspections to ensure the BMP continues to perform as required. The specific details associated with implementing the verification requirement shall be incorporated into your SWPPP monitoring plans.
4) The above calculations, permittee copies of all completed forms, and any correspondence with the Department must be kept onsite at all times and be made available to an inspector upon request.
5) While generating credits, the permittee is required to email a scanned copy of the Comprehensive Site Compliance Evaluation report (Part V.A.2.b) to the Department at swppp.permit@maryland.gov, by December 1 of every year that the BMP generates credit.

Additional Requirements for Facilities Satisfying their Restoration Requirements via a Trade:

1) In the event of a default in a trade contract, expiration of a credit, or suspension or revocation of a credit, the buyer using the credit remains responsible for complying with the terms and conditions of the permit. In any of these events, the permittee must update the SWPPP and inform the Department of how they intend to regain compliance with the restoration requirement of the permit.
2) Registration of Trades. The permittee must notify the Department about each trade they are involved in by filing a form provided by the Department within 15 days after the trade, after which time the Department will update the Registry to include the registration number. The permittee must update the SWPPP to include this registration number and explain in the SWPPP how this trade is being used to satisfy the restoration requirement in the permit.
3) Verification and Reporting Requirements. The permittee must include the status of any trades they have initiated to meet the permit restoration requirement in their Comprehensive Site Compliance Evaluation report (Part V.A.2.b). The permittee must email a scanned copy of the Comprehensive Site Compliance Evaluation report to the Department at swppp.permit@maryland.gov, by December 1 of every year that they used credits to satisfy the restoration requirement.
4) Copies of the contract, the annual Department notification and any other correspondence with the Department regarding the trade must be kept onsite at all times and be made available to an inspector upon request.