Appointment

From: Marcus, Pam [marcus.pam@epa.gov]
Sent: 2/4/2019 11:54:33 PM
To: Bouma, Stacey [Bouma.Stacey@epa.gov]; Able, Tony [Able.Tony@epa.gov]; Zapata, Cesar [Zapata.Cesar@epa.gov]; Gordon, Lisa Perras [Gordon.Lisa-Perras@epa.gov]; Allenbach, Becky [Allenbach.Becky@epa.gov]
CC: Cooper, Jamal [cooper.jamal@epa.gov]; Wetherington, Michele [Wetherington.Michele@epa.gov]

Subject: GA WQS Narrative
Location: Conference Room 15C

Start: 3/5/2019 2:00:00 PM
End: 3/5/2019 3:00:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Required Attendees: Stacey Bouma (Bouma.Stacey@epa.gov); Able, Tony; Caesar Zapata (Zapata.cesar@Epa.gov); Gordon, Lisa Perras; Allenbach, Becky
Optional Attendees: Cooper, Jamal; Wetherington, Michele

POC: Stacey Bouma 2-9392

Purpose of Meeting:
To work with the DD to prepare materials and frame the discussion for the presentation to the Acting RA on the Georgia Narrative WQS Revision submitted by GA EPD, received on August 14, 2018.

Background:
GAEPD submitted two revisions to their water quality standards (WQS) "free from" narrative criteria. GAEPD stated that the revisions are a clarification only and do not change the stringency of the narrative. EPA staff found the change was substantive. Staff recommend approval of revision #1, which changed the words, "legitimate uses" to "designated use of the water body," and due to lack of justification, disapproval of revision #2, which added the word, "unreasonably" in front of the word "interfere." After briefing the DD and the former RA in September and October, EPA sent a letter on October 5, 2018, notifying the state that the initial response did not include sufficient justification and offered the State the opportunity to provide additional documentation including methods and analysis for each parameter to demonstrate how "unreasonably" interfere will protect the most stringent designated use. EPA also requested that the State clarify its interpretation of the court cases that included language that was inconsistent with the CWA. The EPA received a memo in response on November 2, 2018. The memo did not include any new technical information including, "methods used and analyses conducted to support water quality standards revisions" to satisfy that requirement in 40 C.F.R. 131.6. There is also insufficient information for the analysis of the required effects determinations on species for ESA Section 7 consultation. Deadline for approval was October 13, 2018 and disapproval was by November 12, 2018. Based on the updated information, staff recommendation for partial approval/disapproval remains the same.

Expectations from Meeting:
Ensure that the presentation and materials prepared for the Acting RA addresses the information deemed necessary by the DD.