



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Basil Seggos
Commissioner
New York Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-1011

Dear Commissioner Seggos:

Enclosed please find the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) evaluation of New York's Final Amended Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP), submitted to EPA on May 25th, 2021. This evaluation was conducted as a critical part of the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) partnership's accountability framework, which established EPA's oversight role in fulfilling the CBP partnership's commitment to have the necessary practices in place by 2025 to achieve applicable water quality standards in the tidal Bay.

EPA's evaluation of New York's WIP is based on both the programmatic and numeric commitments reflected in New York's narrative WIP document and the submission of an implementation scenario of the Best Management Practices and wastewater reductions through the CBP partnership's Phase 6 suite of modeling tools. New York's WIP is projected to meet New York's nutrient goals through the proposed implementation of Best Management Practices, updated wastewater projections, and nitrogen to phosphorous exchanges. New York's plan provides confidence in its narrative submission that it will meet its nutrient goals by 2025. EPA's evaluation includes recommended enhancements that will help ensure that New York maintains its nutrient goals beyond 2025.

EPA will continue to provide significant technical, financial, and other resource support to assist New York in implementing its WIP and subsequent two-year milestones.



We appreciate New York's commitment to restore the Chesapeake Bay and its local waters, and we look forward to further collaboration.

Sincerely,

Diana Esher
Acting Regional Administrator
Region 3

Enclosure

Cc: Richard Ball, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture & Markets
James Tierney, Deputy Commissioner for Water Resources
Walter Mugdan, Acting Regional Administrator, EPA Region 2