White Oak and Buffalo Bayou Bacteria TMDL Stakeholder Meeting

Wednesday May 14, 2003 Houston Galveston Area Council 6:30 pm

Meeting Agenda

- Purposes
- Process Overview
- Moving Ahead
- Summarizing the discussion
- Next Steps
- Adjourn

Purposes of the Meeting

- To brainstorm elements needed to fill information gaps
- To agree on additional information and how to review and incorporate it
- To organize the information so that Stakeholders can make practical recommendations regarding TMDL plan

The Process Overview

- Challenges
 - Time for study
 - Funds
 - Changing information
 - Influence and control
 - Deadlines to meet

Current Status

- A picture of WO BB water quality via technical study
- Several load scenarios to use
- Overviews of other projects
 - City of Houston bacteria study
 - Small Watershed Analysis
- More questions

Moving Ahead

- Brainstorming Exercise
 - What we have/know
 - What we need/want
 - What others can provide
- Discussion and agreement on timeline and integration approach
- Developing strategies re: practical/effective
- Evaluate and rank the strategies
- Select the most practical and effective

Brainstorming Rules

- Everyone participates,
- No judgment, no discussion,
- All ideas have value,
- Keep it moving,
- Build on each others' ideas,
- Agree to a time limit (30 min.)

Think FIRST

First, individually list ideas/gaps/ issues/questions in these 3 areas

- What we know
 Evaluate what we have
- What we need
 Focus energy and creativity here
- What others can provideWhat others can provide

Listing the ideas

- Three lists
- Discussion
 - Questions of Clarification
 - Remove duplicates
 - Group like items
 - What's not there.... (1 round)
- Time check

Discussion of Next Steps

Questions/needs

- additional meetings to hear reports, email work, small group work
- a timeline and process for adding information
- criteria to test material as essential or extraneous,
- decision process for when/whether to move ahead or
- develop a dynamic process with mid-course adjustments implied

Develop TMDL Strategies

- Describe actions implied in the studies and data
- List strategies, scenarios, "what ifs"
 - Brainstorming
 - Discussion
 - Consensus on X number

Sorting Strategies for Practical Value

- Costs (economics)
- Health status achievement
- Ease of implementation
- Degree of control
- Environmental benefits
- Political ease
- Outreach value
- Acceptability to public
- Maintenance

Evaluate by Ranking

- Discussion
- Questions of clarification
- Assign values re: practicality/effectiveness
- Voting for strategies
- Looking at the results
- Reaching agreement on top 3-5

TMDL Goals

- Stakeholders reach agreement on the most feasible and desirable components of a watershed action plan and make recommendations to TCEQ
- Water Quality improvement over time in White Oak and Buffalo Bayous