

Public Participation in Clear Creek TMDL Project



Segments 1101, 1101B, 1102,
1102A, 1102B and 2425C –
Bacteria

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The Value of Stakeholders

- Better solutions come with broad participation from stakeholders
- Increases the degree of understanding issues, possible solutions, and constraints
- Builds support within the watershed for necessary solutions
- Multiple parties often needed to implement solutions



Who Are Stakeholders?

- All individuals or organizations in the watershed who:
 - live in the watershed or use the water resource
 - may contribute to the impact to the watershed
 - may be required to carry out control measures
 - can help to develop or implement actions
 - have statutory or regulatory responsibilities
 - are significantly affected by the problem(s)
 - are directly affected by the project's outcome
 - Elected officials of the constituents in the watershed



Forming a TMDL Advisory Group

- Soliciting Members
 - House Bill 2912
 - No more than 24 members
 - Goal: have balanced representation within the watershed
 - Invite members, formalize commitment
 - Establish and maintain a roster of members and groundrules



Balanced Representation

Stakeholder membership represents a diversity of viewpoints on issues to be discussed

- Geography
- Income levels
- Ethnicity
- Business (different types and sizes)
- Governments (different sizes and levels)
- Associations, trade groups, organizations
- Consumer and public interest groups
- Industries or occupations regulated and affected



Stakeholder Group Requirements

- TCEQ Approval
 - Formation of group
 - Membership
- Conduct of Meetings
 - Open to the public, inclusive
 - Ground rules and structure
 - Prior notice of meetings
 - Agendas and meeting summaries
 - Maintain web site at:
<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/water/tmdl/68-clearcreekbacteria.html>



Role of the Stakeholders

- Communicate project information to others being represented
- Provide personal/organization perspective on all issues
- Provide knowledge of the watershed
- Provide comments and suggestions during the project
- Solicit input from others



TCEQ's Role in the Stakeholder Process

- Work with stakeholders to ensure they understand the issues and their ideas are considered
- Solicit stakeholder comment at each milestone in the project's development
- Assist Stakeholders in communication
- Hold regular meetings

QUESTIONS?



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