



New York - New Jersey  
Harbor Estuary  
Program

## **New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program Management Committee Conference Call of April 3, 2008**

The call was convened at 10:00. Participants included Bob Nyman (Chair), Dennis Suszkowski, Boris Rukovets, John Tavoraro, Ashley Pengitore, Jeff Myers, Kerry Kirk Pflugh, and Walter Berry. The purpose of the call was to review the agenda for the upcoming Policy Committee meeting and to prepare a balanced budget that could be recommended to the Policy Committee.

The draft Policy Committee agenda was reviewed and decisions were made as to presenters for the various items. No additions or deletions were made to the issues. The revised draft will be distributed to the Policy Committee a week before their meeting.

Bob Nyman reviewed the budget process and the requests that were submitted. He noted that the MC had previously agreed to accept budget requests for a limited number of the priority actions in the 2008 Action Plan.

This budget is based solely on the \$591,750 that is available from Section 320 Clean Water Act funds. The 1:1 required match for these funds is to be provided by in-kind services from the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (PVSC). Funding will be provided by EPA as a single grant to the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC). NEIWPCC will provide grant management services for the distribution of funding and will oversee any sub-grant RFP awards. NEIWPCC will also provide the HEP Office staff positions funded through this budget.

Budget requests totaling \$878,082 were received and detailed write-ups on these items were made available to MC members on the HEP website. We received over \$286,000 more in requests than was available. For the most part, the MC agreed that all the requests were reasonable. There was some discussion about the need for the floatables model, but those most closely involved with the issue (NJDEP, Corps, and IEC) felt that it was needed.

The Management Committee agreed to certain funding levels for many of the items and then asked the Program Director to develop two budget options – one with more of a focus on projects/tools, and one with more of a focus on distribution of grants. These two options are to be distributed to the MC for a quick review prior to being distributed to the Policy Committee for their April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The call was then adjourned.