



New York - New Jersey
Harbor Estuary
Program

**New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program
Policy Committee Conference Call
November 8, 2006
Final Minutes**

The conference call was convened at 2:00 p.m. Kathy Callahan chaired the call. Participants included: Kathy Callahan, Lisa Jackson, Lynette Stark, Chuck Warren, Chris Zeppie, Mark Klein, Kerry Kirk-Pflugh, and Bob Nyman.

The call was set up at the request of Chuck Warren and Chris Zeppie to discuss the implementation review response that the Management Committee had developed and recommended for Policy Committee approval.

Mr. Warren began by saying that he felt the proposed response was too general. He added that he wanted to see more short term goals and a strategy to reach them. He also felt that the suggested signing ceremony had already been done when the CCMP was signed and that there was no need to redo it. Ms. Callahan responded that the purpose of the document was to let EPA HQ know that the program was going to be addressing the issues raised and to give a general idea of what was to going to be done. Mr. Zeppie commented that he felt the response document did not give the feeling that more was going to be done to increase funding. He added that he thought much of the leveraged funds mentioned were from the Port Authority and that the sources needed to be diversified. Lisa Jackson said that there was a lot riding on the TMDL effort that HEP was coordinating. She thought this was an important role for HEP, but she wanted to make sure that it would be completed according to the schedule.

After much discussion, the committee agreed to sign off on the implementation review response and that Mr. Nyman would put it in letter form and transmit it to EPA HQ. The committee also agreed to schedule a one day facilitated retreat in late January 2007. The purpose of the retreat would be to have in depth discussions about how they would like to see each of the issues addressed, particularly short term goals and strategies. It was suggested that other programs that are doing particular things well, such as the Chesapeake or Long Island Sound, be invited to give brief presentations.

The call was concluded at 3:00.