COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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SUBJECT: Guidance Memorandum No. **16-2007** – Virginia Water Protection (VWP) Permit Program Staff Manual

TO: Regional Directors, Regional VWPP/Water Permit Managers, VWPP Staff, Enforcement Staff

FROM : Melanie D. Davenport, Director, Water Permitting Division

DATE: February 3, 2017

COPIES: Virginia Water Protection Permit Program managers; David Davis, Director, Office of Wetlands and Stream Protection; Scott Kudlas, Director, Office of Water Supply; Angela Jenkins, Director, Policy Division

Introduction and Background:

The Virginia Water Protection (VWP) Permit Program Manual (Manual) is a living document that undergoes periodic updates and revisions through a collaborative, internal process. The last partial revision occurred in 2006. The purpose of this guidance is to update the way in which procedures are implemented in the Virginia Water Protection Permit (VWP) Program, primarily due to amendments made to the VWP Program permit regulations, effective August 2, 2016, but also for various decisions made in processing VWP permits over the last ten years.

In keeping with DEQ initiatives on Pollution Prevention and digital government, the Manual will not be printed in hard copy but will be available electronically, as noted below ("Electronic Copy").

The following guidance was identified for official rescinding based on a comprehensive review of existing guidance and decisions made by the VWP Permit Program at a staff meeting held May 11, 2016. Therefore, this guidance supersedes the following Guidance Memoranda:

TITLE	NUMBER	DATE
VWP CMR Revision Procedures	5424	12/09/2013
VWP Permits Issuance for Surface Water Impacts in the Potomac River	GM02-2016	08/07/2002
VWPP - Avoidance & Minimization of Impacts to Surface Waters	GM04-2007	02/06/2004
VWPP - Guidance on Wetlands Created During Mining Operations	GM04-2009	02/24/2004
Requirements for VWPP to Impact Wetlands Within Storm Water BMPs	GM04-2018	09/27/2004
Coordination of Permitting Requirements For Wetlands and the Siting of Solid Waste Landfills (Joint Guidance - Waste GM06-2005)	GM05-2012	08/22/2005
VWP Permit Program Staff Manual	GM06-2015	10/31/2006
Surface Water Impacts at Solid Waste Landfills (Joint Guidance - Waste GM01-2008)	GM08-2002	02/22/2008
Regulation of Ditches under the Virginia Water Protection Permit Program	GM08-2004	05/13/2008
Use of Preservation for Compensatory Mitigation in VWP Permits	GM08-2009	06/09/2008
Permitting Dam Maintenance Activities in Surface Waters	GM08-2011	07/30/2008
Farm Pond or Impoundment and Stock Pond or Impoundment Exemption from Virginia Water Protection Program Requirements	GM08-2012	10/01/2008
DEQ Policy for Areas and Activities Given the "Manipulated Wetland" Label by the Natural Resource Conservation Service	GM10-2005	09/29/2010
Revised Local Government, Riparian Property Owner, Adjacent Property Owner or Resident, and General Public Notification Procedures for VPDES, VPA and VWP Permit Applications and Draft Permits	GM11-2005	03/18/2011
401 Certification Guidance	GM90-006	02/12/1990
401 Certification Application Approval Process	GM91-005	02/19/1991
Permit Transmittal Letters - Application Language	GM92-017	07/28/1992
VWP Permit Waivers	GM93-002	02/08/1993
Form Letters and Procedures in the VWP Program	GM94-016	12/22/1994

Electronic Copy:

An electronic copy of this guidance in PDF format is available internally for DEQ staff on DEQNET. An electronic copy of this guidance in PDF format is available for the general public on DEQ's website at http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WetlandsStreams/ResourcesLinks.aspx.

The electronic version of the VWP Permit Program Staff Manual may be found on DEQNET at http://deqnet/documents/index.asp?path=%2Fdocs%2Fwater%2FWater%5Fpermit/VWP%5FPermit%5FProgram, and on the DEQ public web site at http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WetlandsStreams/ResourcesLinks.aspx.

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