Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation Public Meeting on 4 VAC 50-60-10 et seq. Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) Permit Regulations

February 16, 2006, 1:00 p.m. Roanoke County Board of Supervisors Meeting Room 5204 Bernard Drive Roanoke, Virginia 24018

Meeting Officer: David C. Dowling

Policy, Planning and Budget Director

Department of Conservation and Recreation

Opening:

Mr. Dowling: Good afternoon, I would like to call this meeting to order. I am David Dowling, the Policy, Planning and Budget Director for the Department of Conservation and Recreation. I will be serving as the meeting officer this afternoon. I would like to welcome you to this public meeting where we will be discussing two regulatory actions associated with the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board's Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) Permit Regulations. The two regulatory actions that will be heard at these meetings, in the order they will be addressed are, 1) amendments to determine the minimum criteria for a local stormwater program and to develop procedures for the delegation of the administration of the state stormwater program to localities; and, 2) amendments to the statewide stormwater permit fee schedule.

I would like to thank Roanoke County for allowing us to use this facility this afternoon.

With us this afternoon is one member of the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board that is the responsible authority for the Virginia Stormwater Management Program Permit Regulations. The Board member present with us today is Mr. Michael Russell. Thank you for coming.

Additionally, with me this afternoon I have Lee Hill, an Assistant Director in the Department's Soil and Water Conservation Division. Lee has oversight over the Department's erosion and sediment control and stormwater programs and will serve as our technical presenter today.

Also with me is Michael Fletcher, DCR Director of Development. Michael will be audio taping our meeting and developing a set of minutes of the comments received today.

Other DCR staff with us this afternoon include Christine Watlington our Policy and Budget Analyst.

I hope that all of you have registered on our attendance list. If not, please do so. Those wishing to speak to either of the regulatory actions should note that on the attendance list.

Please also make sure that your contact information is legible and complete, as we will be utilizing it to keep you informed on the status of these regulatory actions.

The purpose of this meeting is to receive input from interested citizens on the DCR Notices of Intended Regulatory Action on the Board's Virginia Stormwater Management Program Permit Regulations.

The first NOIRA primarily considers the development and adoption of revised regulations to establish minimal criteria of a local stormwater management program and Board approval procedures for the delegation of the stormwater management program for construction activities, or parts thereof, to localities. The substance, format, and procedures of these regulations will ultimately depend upon approval from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which has national oversight of all Clean Water Act programs.

The second NOIRA primarily considers the development and adoption of regulations that establish or revise the statewide stormwater permit fees at a level sufficient to carry out the stormwater management program.

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board authorized and directed the Department's filing of these NOIRAs relating to the Board's Virginia Stormwater Management Program Permit Regulations at its May 19, 2005 meeting. The Department is to consider changes and solicit recommendations relating to these Regulations. There are no amended regulations that have been drafted as of this date or that will be considered today as we are still at the stage of hearing from the public.

The Notice of Intended Regulatory Action is a mechanism to inform the public that the agency is considering developing, amending, or repealing the regulations in accordance with the Administrative Process Act. The current 60-day public comment period, which closes February 24, and this public meeting, serve as an opportunity for the public to provide the Board and the Department data, viewpoints, and recommendations regarding their thoughts about whether to, or how to, revise the Virginia Stormwater Management Program Permit Regulations. A copy of both NOIRAs, these regulations, and public comment procedures are available on the back table in the folders.

The Board is also seeking information regarding impacts on small businesses. Information may include: (1) Projected reporting, record keeping and other administrative costs, (2) Probable effect of the regulation on affected small businesses, and (3) Description of less intrusive or costly alternative methods of achieving the purpose of the regulation.

The Department as authorized by the Board will be using a public participatory process to develop the proposed regulations. The Department will be forming a Technical Advisory Committee to consist of relevant stakeholders to assist in the development of proposed regulations for the Board's consideration. Persons interested in participating on the advisory committee should provide their name, address, phone number, e-mail address, and the name of the organization or affected group that they represent in writing to the Regulatory Coordinator for consideration no later than 5:00 pm on February 24, 2006.

Today is only the very beginning of a public process with opportunities for the public to be engaged in the development of the regulatory changes throughout the process. In general, the process involves, upon the close of this public comment period, the development of proposed regulations utilizing a technical advisory committee and discussions with and direction from the Board, a 60-day public comment period and a series of public hearings across the State on the proposed regulations, and the development of final regulations. This process will take approximately another 18 months. We encourage each of you to remain engaged throughout the regulatory process.

This concludes my introductory remarks. I would like to introduce Lee Hill, DCR's Assistant Director of Soil and Water Conservation, who will explain in more detail what we are proposing to do with the two regulatory actions.

Mr. Hill: Thank you Mr. Dowling.

The Virginia Stormwater Management Permit Program was created by HB1177 in 2004 and this action transferred the responsibility of the permitting programs for MS4s and construction activities from the State Water Control Board and the Department of Environmental Quality to the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board and the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

The Act authorizes the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board to delegate to the Department or an approved locality the implementation of the Virginia Stormwater Management Program. The Act further requires establishment of stormwater management programs by certain localities and specifies that the Board must amend, modify or delete provisions of the Virginia Stormwater Management Program Permit Regulations to allow localities to implement the Program.

Under the first regulatory action, the existing Virginia Stormwater Management Program Permit Regulation will be amended, modified or changed to allow the Board to delegate the permitting responsibility for construction activities, or portions thereof, to localities with MS4s, to localities covered by the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act, or to localities requesting to operate or "opt in" to the program. The delegation of the Virginia Stormwater Management Program to localities will further streamline the program by providing for "one stop permitting" for land-disturbing activities regulated under this program.

The regulations will outline minimum criteria that a local stormwater management program must contain to receive program delegation by the Board for administration of the Virginia Stormwater Management Program or portions thereof. It will also contain administrative procedures by which the Board makes its delegation determinations. As mentioned previously, the substance, format, and procedures of these regulations will ultimately depend upon approval from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which has national oversight of all Clean Water Act programs.

The regulations may also remove the out-of-date Best Management Practices (BMP) nutrient removal efficiency information from the current regulations and reflect its

addition into the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook where it shall be more regularly updated for public use.

Currently, the localities are already administering the statewide erosion and sediment control program. The addition of this program at the local level will allow for a more integrated review of project construction plans from both the stormwater and E&S perspectives and thereby improve local water quality and quantity.

The second regulatory action involves amending the fee portion of the regulations. The existing Virginia Stormwater Management Program is currently funded exclusively from permit fees. The current fee schedule was in existence prior to the consolidation of the state program into DCR. The fees will be revised to cover the costs associated with program implementation. To assist localities in the implementation of a locally delegated program, at least 70% of the collected fees will be shared with the localities to cover program costs.

The collection of sufficient fees to cover program costs along with the allowance for local delegation, which is being addressed through the first regulatory action, should improve program implementation statewide. Improved implementation provides protection and improvement of water quality that will restore and enhance the living resources of Virginia's waters, provide clean water for recreational uses and conservation in general, and contribute to the protection of Virginia's rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. These actions are essential for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Thank you for the opportunity to explain these regulatory actions.

Mr. Dowling: Thank you Lee.

I hope that the explanation of our intentions regarding these regulatory actions just provided by Mr. Hill will address some of the questions you had when you came here this afternoon and let you know that this is only the beginning of a public process. Before we begin receiving comments, I would like to stress that this is an information gathering meeting. Everyone wishing to speak will be heard. If necessary, we may ask speakers questions concerning their remarks or to request additional information concerning a subject believed to be important to the process in order to help the clarify and properly capture your comments.

For the purposes of being able to capture the comments in relation to the two separate regulatory actions, I will first take all of the comments associated with the establishment of minimal criteria of a local stormwater management program. Upon completion of all of these comments I will then take comments associated with the establishment or revision of the statewide stormwater permit fees.

We will now begin the public comment portion of the meeting associated with the establishment of minimal criteria of a local stormwater management program.

After reviewing the sign-up sheets, I wish to note that nobody has signed up to speak. Is there anyone that wishes to speak to the minimal criteria of a local stormwater management program?

Hearing none is there anyone who wishes to speak to the regulation regarding fees?

Again, I am hearing none. Last chance, is there anyone who wishes to speak to the regulations or give us any insight or thoughts at this point and time.

Yes sir.

Shelby Hertzler, Rockingham County

Mr. Hertzler: I'm Shelby Hertzler from Rockingham County. Will amendments to the criteria allow for the opportunity to update minimum standard 19 of the Erosion and Sediment Control Law?

Mr. Dowling: No, we are opening the Virginia Stormwater Management Program Permit Regulations, the Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations that contain MS-19 are not open.

Erin Hawkins, City of Lynchburg

Ms. Hawkins: My name is Erin Hawkins. I'm with the City of Lynchburg.

In our discussion in our community regarding Phase 2 regulations and the changes in the targeted removal efficiencies data, will there be any other changes to the stormwater program regarding the measures as far as their effectiveness?

Mr. Hill: The changes to the regulations will result in DCR revising the stormwater handbook and the E&S handbook at the end of this regulatory action.

Ms. Hawkins: That leads to my next question. We are currently looking to rewrite our stormwater quality ordinance and we were wondering how these actions would affect our ability to do that since we rely heavily on these manuals. Will these changes be significant enough to affect our ordinance writing?

Mr. Hill: The changes we are talking about here are just taking the standards out of the regulations and putting them into the handbook. They are in the handbook now. It will not impact what is available to you in the handbook right now and does not affect what is available to you as a locality to address more stringent requirements if you want.

When this process ends, 18-24 months from now, we will look at putting together a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on how to amend the stormwater management handbook and that is when we can expand on that handbook.

These actions that that we will take now do not impact the water quality measures that you can use as a locality.

Ms. Hawkins: We just wanted to make sure that there were not any significant changes. I guess there is just one clarification, once it goes through this process; you're still looking at 18 months before this program will ever be delegated to localities?

Mr. Dowling: Again to reiterate we're at the very beginning of the process. We don't know what these Regulations will look like. You've heard us mention several times during the process that whatever is developed is also going to require the EPA's blessing. We are exploring relatively new ground at this point by considering passing a federal program that's been delegated to the state down to localities to administer. There will have to be discussions; the EPA is part of this process too. It will take approximately 18 months to develop the regulations and then after that we will be notifying localities of the new program requirements before certain Code specified localities are mandated to administer the program or for others to notify us of their intent to opt in.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Pursuant to SB274 of the 2006 General Assembly Session, we anticipate that any locality located within Tidewater Virginia as defined by the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act, or any locality that is partially or wholly designated as an MS4 under the provisions of the federal Clean Water Act, shall be required to adopt a local stormwater management program for land disturbing activities consistent with the provisions of the Stormwater Management Act and regulations according to a schedule set by the Board but no sooner than 12 months and not more than 18 months following the effective date of the regulation that establishes local program criteria and delegation procedures. Additionally, any other locality may elect to adopt and administer a local stormwater management program for land disturbing activities pursuant to the Act. Such localities shall inform the Board and the Department of their initial intention to seek delegation for the stormwater management program for land disturbing permits within six months following the effective date of the regulation that establishes local program criteria and delegation procedures. Thereafter, the Department shall provide an annual schedule by which localities can submit applications for delegation.]

Are there any further questions?

Conley Taylor, City of Roanoke

Mr. Taylor: I am Conley Taylor with the City of Roanoke.

I just want to be clear on the time frame. When do you foresee that the localities will be responsible for this?

Mr. Dowling: We are talking 2 and a half years at a minimum.

Mr. Taylor: Will DCR provide any training to localities to implement this?

Mr. Dowling: I am sure we will be doing plenty of that.

Mr. Taylor: How about the funding? I think I heard a 70 percent maximum going to localities.

Mr. Dowling: Again, the statutes specify that at least 70% of the collected fees will be shared with the localities to assist them in the implementation of a locally delegated program. The locality may very well be collecting 100% of the fees and passing 30% to the state. I'm not sure exactly sure how this will operate. That's part of the process we will address during these regulatory actions.

Mr. Tyler: That was my next question; will the localities collect the fees?

Mr. Dowling: Again, that's what this regulatory process is all about, setting the fees and setting the administrative process and getting comments from localities on how you think that's going to work best, and what you think the fees need to be to adequately support both the locality's program implementation and the state's continuing responsibilities. That's going to need to be an issue for dialogue when we get into the TAC and work on the proposed Regulations together.

Mr. Hill: Keep in mind that we have a Technical Advisory Committee to address these issues. If you would like to be considered to be on one of those you need to email us and let us know. We have already received names from consultants, local governments and others. If anyone here wants to be on the TAC, make sure we have the contact information.

Mr. Dowling: Again that contact information is in the packet that was provided to you. By February 24 we need both any comments that localities or interested parties may have, or if you wish to put your name forward, or someone else's to participate in the TAC.

Are there any further questions?

Seth Miller, Botetourt County

Mr. Miller: I am Seth Miller, Botetourt County. We're an MS4 community. We currently have a town that's designated an MS4. They file their own municipal program independently. They cannot issue land disturbance permits. If this is passed down since they are an independent MS4 will they be responsible for administering their own stormwater permits whereas as a locality we now issue all the land disturbance permits for the town?

Mr. Hill: The law gives them an option. They can work cooperatively with the county, or they can work on their own. As an MS4 they have to opt-in. However, since you are already doing their land disturbing permits and E&S for them they can ask you to cooperatively work with them to cover their program.

Mr. Miller: Could it also change with the census when the current permit period ends and another locality would get picked up?

Mr. Hill: In the next census, if they redefine the urban areas, that could change and someone could become an MS4 that is not an MS4 now and they would still have the opportunity to work with the county or develop their own.

Mr. Miller: Would independent towns be responsible for contacting the counties?

Mr. Hill: That is their responsibility. They can implement a program on their own. However, the law would allow three MS4s within a close jurisdictional area to work together as one to do the permitting program. So, you do not have to have three separate programs.

Mr. Dowling: I think we have another question.

Jay Roberts, DEQ Roanoke

Mr. Roberts: My name is Jay Roberts; I'm with the Department of Environmental Quality here in Roanoke.

I work in the Virginia Water Protection program here in Roanoke and we are implementing the Erosion and Sediment Control handbook and the Stormwater Management handbook.

First of all I wanted to thank you for coming today. I think there is a general lack of familiarity with the VSMP water quality management as far as stormwater goes in the area.

Anything that your Department can do to help educate employees of agencies out here such as myself, local governments, and even the engineering community as to what needs to be done, how to do it, and how to implement it I think would be very beneficial to all of us here in Southwest Virginia. I am only aware of two localities west of I-95 that have an ordinance for water quality management.

Secondly, more specific to water protection permit activities, it says that you are removing out-of-date best management practices from the regulation and putting them in the handbook or updating that information in the handbook. If you could provide that information to us so we know specifically what items are considered to be already out of date, it would be beneficial again so that we are not having people do things through the water protection program that the Department of Conservation and Recreation considers to be no longer appropriate practices for whatever reason.

Finally, specific to the 16% impervious land cover of the Chesapeake Bay Region. I would ask that you look at site specific, regional specific numbers for that land cover condition. I'm not sure 16% is applicable to many areas. That land cover condition is probably lower than 16%. You are talking about aggregating Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Norfolk, Newport News on up to Northern Virginia and calculating that 16% land cover area. I would be surprised if any land covers out in this part of the state have a 16% impervious surface. That might be a little too high and result in us not incorporating appropriate load reduction requirements. Thank you.

Mr. Dowling: Is there anyone else? Yes sir.

George Simpson, Roanoke County

Mr. Simpson: I'm George Simpson, Roanoke County. I would echo Jay's comments that there are a lot of changes and regulations coming. I would add that we do need to keep the communications open, certainly public education.

Specifically, will this regulation affect the county's VPDES permit at the end of the current five-year period? Will this be incorporated into that or is it separate?

Mr. Hill: We are renewing some of the individual MS4 permits now. We are putting in the permits that the MS4 will need to incorporate any regulatory changes into their program if we delegate stormwater program administration to them. It's the same thing with the MS4 general permit; you would need to modify that general permit to say you incorporate this.

Mr. Simpson: Is there any indication of what the next permit period will contain?

Mr. Hill: The general permits will expire in 2009. We have to start the revision process 18 months prior to that, so we would start around 2007.

Mr. Simpson: Will those requirements look different from what we're seeing now?

Mr. Hill: They may. It will all depend on what is in the regulations.

Mr. Simpson: The other comment is that we are revising our Stormwater Management ordinance this year. I'm assuming that we could see changes that could be mandated to that ordinance in 18 months.

Mr. Hill: If you are revising your stormwater ordinance, please send a copy to our regional office. We will look at those as we determine what is a model ordinance and what is acceptable to the Soil and Water Conservation Board. What I have been telling folks is that we will evaluate what ordinances are out there to try to come with a good ordinance that will require only small changes to existing ordinances.

If you have a locality that has a very weak ordinance, maybe they'll have to make a 60% change. There will be significant concerns if we require all localities to significantly change their ordinances. We have to be careful of how we develop our model ordinance and make sure we look at what is already out there.

Mr. Dowling: I think Lee certainly hit a key point there. Comments from localities and other interested parties are certainly welcome. If you have stormwater ordinances on the books now, please share those with us, because as Lee said we don't want to reinvent the wheel. We want to build on what localities already have at this point and time.

Erin Hawkins, City of Lynchburg (additional questions)

Ms. Hawkins: A quick question. You recommend sending you our ordinances if we change them. Would it also be possible to have some workshops for the localities that are in the process of revising ordinances?

Mr. Hill: One of the items we have to develop is what is the model ordinance. If we held our workshops now, we would be basing them on what is on the website now which is out-of-date. Once we have a model ordinance, we would have training sessions and meetings to share it with local governments. We would compare their local ordinance with our model ordinance and indicate what needs to change.

Anita McMillan, Town of Vinton

Ms. McMillan: I am Anita McMillan from the Town of Vinton. As the gentleman from Botetourt County was saying earlier we, as the Town of Vinton, asked Roanoke County to be responsible for our Erosion and Sediment Control program. Each town is responsible for it's own stormwater and it would be nice to have some direction from the State as to whether the county can agree to take over the implementation of the stormwater program. However, there are certain aspects of the town that differ from the county. Accordingly, we need some direction.

Mr. Hill: In an effort to clarify, the law says that DCR and the Soil and Water Conservation Board will develop what is an acceptable stormwater management program. That will be a statewide stormwater management program. It says that MS4s and areas under the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act must adopt that program. Areas that are not MS4s and are not in the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act have the option to opt-in to the program meaning you can elect to do it yourself. If the locality does not do it, DCR will administer the program for you. Meaning that the same program that MS4s are doing and the same program that the Bay Act localities are doing are going to apply to any county, town or city that is not an MS4 or a Bay Act locality.

There is not any difference in the program statewide. If the town wants to go with the county, it will be consistent. That is why it is the stateside stormwater management program.

For example, if Lee County does not decide to opt in, DCR will do it for them. Meaning that the Board will direct DCR staff to implement the stormwater management program for Lee County. This means that program will possibly be administered through our regional office in Abingdon. The staff there will do that work.

The regulatory actions we take will establish what is going to happen in that locality. So if that program says that no land disturbing permits will be issued until you have a stormwater management plan for the projects of a certain size, those plans would have to be submitted to the staff for review and approval before the locality can issue any permits for land disturbance. That is an important point to remember. That is why it is important to pay attention to what the NOIRA says and what comes out of it.

Ms. McMillan: Before the 18 months, will you have a summary of all the suggested comments you've been getting?

Mr. Dowling: This is a very open public process. This is just the beginning. This is our first opportunity to interact with the public and receive any comments what so ever. We do not know what this regulation is going to look like yet. We are going to be basing it on the comments received and on the Technical Advisory Group discussions. We will work with the TAC for the next 3-4 months to develop what these regulations might look like. At that point and time, we will be getting a summary of comments received and the proposed regulations out to interested parties for review and additional comment. Right now we are holding two public meetings on the NOIRAs.

Once we have the proposed regulations, we will have a number of public hearings across the state. We want to hear everyone's comments. Because it is going to affect all of us, we need to all be working together to come up with a common solution.

Ms. McMillan: Will you be dealing with both quality and quantity?

Mr. Hill: Yes.

Mr. Dowling: Yes sir. In the back.

Kip Foster, DEQ

Mr. Foster: I am Kip Foster, I am a water program manager for DEQ.

I appreciate you being here today. We are glad to have you out here to talk about these issues as we are trying to figure them out.

I want to reiterate that we are in desperate need of some information training. If DCR could assist us with that it would be helpful. We are in desperate need to understand the new book and understand what it means.

I do have some questions after briefly looking through the handout. We're in a sediment TMDL watershed here in Roanoke as well as in Blacksburg and Christiansburg. I am not real sure how those TMDL requirements will be addressed in the MS4 permits or the stormwater general permits. Can you speak to that?

Mr. Dowling: I don't know that we have a concise answer.

Mr. Foster: And that's fine. It's an issue for consideration.

Mr. Hill: To give you an idea. If it is a wasteload allocation, the MS4 would tell us they have a TMDL in the system and develop a program to address it. In the end of the year report they may say we were not that successful with it, and here is how we plan to readdress it. That's one option available.

The second option is under the general permit for stormwater discharges or construction activities. There is an opener in them that states that if you are in an area doing construction that has a TMDL, you need to implement SWPPP (Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan)

measures to address the TMDL. Those measures must be reviewed with the TMDL agency. The question is in this case, who is the TMDL agency.

Mr. Dowling: That is an area for further future discussion.

Mr. Hill: MS4s if they have a TMDL are to tell DCR how they expect to deal with it.

Mr. Foster: Mr. Roberts brought up the 16% issue and the part where the localities can set that. With that allowance, hopefully it will match the TMDL wasteload application.

Mr. Hill: That is something to be considered as the regulations are developed.

Mr. Foster: The other thing I noticed is that we have a lot work to do, in the fee schedule. There are maintenance fees, which I think, are new. One of those is additional permit fees of \$1,000 paid by permittees in a toxic management program. I am trying to figure out where that applies.

Mr. Dowling: We would have to take a look at it. We are going to have to look at all the fees. Do recall that is a rather lengthy regulation, as you are well aware. We brought it over from DEQ and made the revisions immediately necessary pursuant to the Code. There may be a few items that we felt needed to remain in for future consideration. We will take a look at it.

Mr. (Shelby) Hertzler

Mr. Hertzler: Just a couple of more questions. Is EPA still pushing to make low impact development a mandatory consideration?

Mr. Hill: For anyone who did not hear the question, the question is, is EPA still pushing DCR to make low impact development a mandatory condition of any stormwater management program or MS4.

The answer is yes they are. HB1177 says that DCR will encourage LID. It does not say to require or mandate it. How we do that will be determined through these regulatory actions.

Mr. Dowling: Again that is an area that we will be closely looking at.

Mr. Hertzler: One other thing that is sort of related. Are these regulations going to be an opportunity to address karst topography?

Mr. Dowling: We will have to take a look at that.

Mr. Hertzler: And lastly, what kind of time and travel commitment will there be with the TAC?

Mr. Dowling: This is very preliminary at this time. I do not have a complete answer to your question. However, there will be somewhere between 4-6 meetings associated with the

TAC. They will probably be located around the Richmond/Charlottesville area. Probably a central location. Each meeting will probably be a day long meeting.

Mr. Roberts: Are we waiting to see how this pans out with our model ordinances?

Mr. Dowling: Hopefully, more than just waiting. Participating.

Any other questions or comments?

Again I wish to remind you that the public is encouraged to comment on the need for regulatory changes and to express their opinions to state officials in a process that is scheduled to take a number of months.

Persons desiring to submit written comments pertaining to these notices and this meeting may do by mail, by the Internet, or by facsimile. We ask that the comments associated with each NOIRA be kept separate or at least made readily identifiable as to which NOIRA the comments are related to. Comments on either NOIRA should be sent to the Regulatory Coordinator at: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, 203 Governor Street, Suite 302, Richmond, Virginia 23219. Comments also may be emailed to the Regulatory Coordinator at: regcord@dcr.virginia.gov. Or comments may be faxed to the Regulatory Coordinator at: (804)786-6141. All written comments must include the name and address of the commenter (e-mail addresses would be appreciated also). In order to be considered, comments must be received by 5:00 PM on February 24, 2006. This contact information is available on a one-pager in the information packets and is also included in the NOIRA documents.

I want to thank you for attending this afternoon and sharing your thoughts and questions with us. This public meeting is now closed.

I hope that everyone has a safe trip home.