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March 7, 2017

James J. White
Executive Director

SUBJECT: Dredged Material Placement Capacity

In Maryland, dredged material is managed through the State of Maryland's Dredged Material Management Program (DMMP). The DMMP is a comprehensive process used to establish long-term dredging placement plans, and to identify potential new placement sites. The DMMP relies on, and incorporates, input from a variety of stakeholders, including citizens, environmental groups, State and Federal agencies, Executive and Management Committees, citizens' advisory committees, and numerous working groups. These committees and working groups meet regularly, and continuously identify, study, review, and prioritize potential placement sites.

As the MPA and participants in the DMMP continue to explore innovative, environmentally sound, and cost effective ways to use and reuse dredged material, including, but not limited to, expanding existing dredged material placement facilities and new facilities, the costs associated with the safe and environmentally acceptable placement of dredged material continue to rise.

As we look to future dredged material placement needs, and the State's ability to accommodate those needs, MPA will need to continue to conserve existing placement capacity for our first priority – a safe and navigable 50-foot channel which is maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. We will continue to explore with our DMMP partners new placement sites, beneficial use, or innovative reuse options. As such, this notice serves to remind you that MPA will continue to consider accepting dredged material from private industry for placement of material for maintenance dredging on a case-by-case basis. The costs to private industry associated with this type of placement will be calculated by MPA at the time of placement, and will only reflect the actual cost to the State without any markup or additional charges. Placement of dredged material in MPA's dredged material placement facilities for new work projects will continue to be prohibited. Once we have a third option for dredged material placement, we will resume accepting dredged material from new work dredging.

If you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact Chris Correale at 410-385-4419 or 410-385-4465.

Sincerely,

James J. White
Executive Director