

NEXT STEPS AND GUIDANCE TO THE GLRC STRATEGY TEAMS FOR THE ROCHESTER MEETING

At the September 6 Executive Committee meeting, the GLRC subcommittee was asked to develop some specific guidance for the Strategy Teams to use in preparing for the upcoming Executive Committee-Strategy Team co-chairs meeting in Rochester on October 6-7. This is an important meeting at which the Collaboration effort will transition from developing a wide-ranging draft Strategy to providing advice and recommendations to the Executive Committee as they begin creating a targeted action plan with specific actions for early implementation. In order to prepare for this key meeting, the Executive Committee is asking the Strategy Teams to provide the following information **by September 30th**.

Substantive Changes to Strategy Team Chapters

EPA contractors have categorized the comments received through the public review process, and will send to you on Tuesday, September 20, those comments that pertain to your section of the draft Strategy. Please identify any substantive elements of your chapter that may be modified based on your team's consideration of the public comments, and provide a list of those likely changes to Macara Lousberg at lousberg.macara@epa.gov by September 30. Please note that the contractor will be available to assist the teams in this effort, including arranging any conference calls or follow up work needed to accomplish this task. Each Team will have until October 12 to make the actual final modifications to their Strategy Team's documents and to transmit them to the contractor.

Issues to Elevate to the Executive Committee

Please also identify any issues that you think will need to be elevated to the Executive Committee for resolution, including any suggestions you might have for the Executive Committee to help resolve the issues. Having these issues identified before the Rochester meeting will give the Executive Committee time to prepare to discuss them when they meet on October 6-7. Please provide these to Macara Lousberg by September 30.

Recommendations for Identifying Near Term Actions

To help the Executive Committee develop the final action plan, each Strategy Team needs to identify near term actions that are the most urgent or which lay essential groundwork for making progress to address the most important near term actions. They should be based on the July draft strategy but should look more specifically at what can be initiated or accomplished as near term actions.

In addition, each Strategy Team should provide more specifics regarding: 1) how those recommendations might be implemented and sequenced, including the identification of lead entity(ies), partner entities, new legislation, needed authorizations or appropriations, etc.; and 2) suggestions on how the Collaboration might measure progress and results from implementing these priority actions. Identifying the sequence of initiated actions is

particularly important since the success of subsequent actions will depend upon laying down the right groundwork.

The information the Strategy Teams will now prepare is likely already available for most teams, as much of it was asked for in the guidance issued earlier this year regarding what each chapter should contain. Please provide this information to the contractor, who will compile these documents into materials for the Rochester meeting.

At the Rochester meeting, each Team will have the opportunity to present the following:

- 1) a summary of major comments received from the comment period and the likely resulting changes to their chapter;
- 2) major issues they have identified for Executive Committee consideration;
- and 3) Recommendations for near term actions.