



Memorandum

To: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission
From: Barr Engineering Co.
Subject: February 24, 2010 Telephone Conference Call with MPCA re: E. Coli TMDL
Date: March 5, 2010

On February 24, 2010 Bassett Creek WMO Chairperson Linda Loomis, Commissioner Justin Riss, Jeff Oliver and Len Kremer had a telephone conference call with Brooke Asleson and Barb Peichel, MPCA regarding the upper Mississippi River E. Coli TMDL and the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission. The questions that were asked and the responses that were received are summarized below.

1. Assuming that Bassett Creek is included in the upper Mississippi River E. Coli TMDL is there any additional information that can be provided to the Commission on the process that will take place in the completion of the TMDL and how the Commission will be involved?
The first phase of the Mississippi River E. Coli TMDL, which consisted of a collection and review of all relevant information is complete and the second phase of the TMDL, the collection of data to supplement existing data is starting. The additional data that is needed will be collected in 2010 and 2011. Meetings with the stakeholders to discuss the progress of the TMDL will be held every six to eight months. Stakeholders will be involved in the review of data and the discussion of impairments, the identification of BMPs to improve water quality, and the development of the TMDL. A draft TMDL report will be available for stakeholders sometime in 2012. Review and approval of the Mississippi River E. Coli TMDL is expected to occur in 2013. The Bassett Creek watershed will be included in the upper Mississippi River E. Coli TMDL unless the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission specifically requests that it not be included.
2. If the Commission decided that they wanted to have the Bassett Creek E. Coli TMDL completed earlier than the scheduled completion of the Upper Mississippi River E. Coli TMDL would there be resources available from the MPCA such as MPCA financial

To: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Committee
From: Barr Engineering Co.
Subject: February 27 , 2010 Conference Call re: E. Coli TMDL
Date: March 5. 2010
Project: 23/27-051 2010

assistance and staff coordination?

If the Commission decided to complete the E. Coli TMDL for the Bassett Creek Watershed, the MPCA would want the Commission to complete a watershed-wide TMDL for all remaining impairments in the watershed. Staff assistance would be available however funding assistance would not be available until 2012 for the watershed-wide TMDL. It should be noted that biota TMDLs in the metro area will be delayed at this time because the standards are being reviewed. It is expected that the review and any needed modification of the standards will be completed in three years.

3. If the Commission decided to complete the Bassett Creek E. Coli TMDL, when would MPCA assistance be available?

Staff assistance would be available now to complete a Bassett Creek Watershed TMDL but financial assistance from the MPCA would not be available until 2012.

4. What would the MPCA estimated completion date be if the Commission completed the Bassett Creek E. Coli TMDL, including MPCA and EPA review?

If the Commission started a watershed-wide TMDL in 2012, the MPCA would expect that the watershed wide TMDL would take until 2013 to complete.

5. What would the MPCA estimate the Commission's cost to be for completing the Bassett Creek E. Coli TMDL independently of the Upper Mississippi River E. Coli TMDL?

The MPCA would want the Commission to complete a watershed-wide TMDL for Bassett Creek if the Commission decides not to participate in the upper Mississippi River E. Coli TMDL. A watershed-wide TMDL was completed for Lambert Creek for about \$40,000 that consisted of a TMDL for four lakes.

6. The Commission has collected E. Coli samples and the MPCA has analyzed the samples for the past two years. Is that data adequate to complete the TMDL or would additional data need to be collected?

The data collected by the Commission over the last two years is adequate for completing an E. Coli TMDL for the Bassett Creek Watershed.