

Wisconsin Nutrient Reduction Strategies

Russ Rasmussen

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources



Nutrient Reduction History

- Priority Watersheds
- Technology-Based Standards – 1993
- USGS / WIDNR Study – P and N
- Numeric P Water Quality-Based Standards – 2010



Implementation Tools

- Extended Compliance Schedules
- Nutrient Trading
- Adaptive Management
- Streamlined Variance Process for Lagoon Systems
- Multi-discharger Variance



Nutrient Reduction Next Steps

- Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV)
- Act 378 – April 2014
- DOA Determination (State Requirement)
 - Substantial and widespread adverse impact
 - Sycamore / Arcadis / UMass
 - Categories: municipalities (2); industry (Paper, Power, Cheese, Food, NCCW, Aquaculture, Other)
 - Primary and Secondary Indicators



Multi-Discharger Variance

- Thirty-day comment period
- Informational hearing
- Submit to EPA
 - Variance = change to water quality standard
 - 45 day comment period
- Initial Findings
 - \$7.0 billion
 - 3,361 jobs



Multi- Discharger Variance

- What is required?
 - Major facility upgrade
 - Agree to
 - Interim limits: 0.8 mg/L; 0.6 mg/L; 0.5 mg/L;WQBEL
 - Watershed project
 - Self directed
 - Third party
 - \$50.00 per pound to counties in watershed
 - Target value (TMDL or 0.2 mg/L)