

## Getting Started with Integrated Planning

### The Elements of EPA's Integrated Planning Framework

- 1: Description of environmental and regulatory issues to be addressed
- 2: Description of existing systems and performance
- 3: Stakeholder involvement
- 4: Evaluating and selecting alternatives and implementation schedules
- 5: Measuring success
- 6: Process for improvements to the plan

THEN: IMPLEMENTATION

### Steps in Developing an Integrated Plan

- Identify water obligations
- Define costs and schedules
- Look at financial capability
- Define environmental/health impacts of controls
- Develop prioritized schedule
- Evaluate legal constraints and need to use relief mechanisms
- Complete Integrated Plan

### Key Points to Remember

- You do not have to do a plan – only do it if it makes sense in your particular situation
- A plan does not have to include every regulatory requirement that applies – scope is up to municipality
- A plan can be done for a single source, or can be done on a watershed basis, or anywhere in between
- Two entities that share authority for a geographic area can do a plan together
- If doing a plan, think broadly – consider including stormwater, drinking water (at least in cost analysis), other sources in watershed, etc.
- Plan can be simple, complex or in-between
- Affordability is key – look at all water obligations, and at costs to run the system long-term
- Consider how to develop a plan that provides adequate legal protection if taking proper actions
- Try to use permits if possible, rather than enforcement tools such as orders and decrees
- Involve community, including on affordability
- Think about environmental justice broadly
- Consider doing adaptive management
- Keep EPA HQ, Region and State involved
- Exchange information with other communities

**List developed by Fred Andes, Barnes and Thornburg**