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Subject: New Bedford Harbor Dredging Monitoring Performance Standards

Here is some background on the Performance Standards you asked about.

The Performance Standards has been used by all the SER dredging projects and AGM Marine dredging permit (proposed in the AGM Marine Order of Conditions and included in the MassDEP 401 Water Quality Permit), to fulfill the 401 Water Quality Program Standards (314 CMR 4.00). These Standards do not have numerical standards regarding sampling/monitoring of discharges to surface waters. The Performance Standards are used to fulfill the Antidegradation Provisions [314 CMR 4.04 (1) Protection of Existing Uses; (2) Protection of High Quality And Other Significant Resource Waters; and (3) Protection of Outstanding Resources Waters].

The Performance Standards were derived from bench lab tests to determine what turbidity levels could be measures.

These Performance Standards were developed for the Big Dig and use for the Boston Harbor Dredging project as well as others.

If anyone else more information let me know.