

Albemarle Pamlico Estuarine Study
Policy Committee
February 28, 1989

The meeting started at 8:00 a.m. chaired by Lee Deihns, EPA Region IV. He introduced the Co-Chair, Bill Cobey, Secretary of the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development. The agenda was amended to add an additional 40 minutes of meeting time.

The minutes from November 29, 1988 were tabled for consideration. Parker Chessen motioned for approval. Mike Gantt seconded. Ayes carried.

I. Director's Report

A. Proposals

Bob Holman gave a summary of the proposals received for 1988-89 funding. Fifty nine were received broken into these categories:

9	Resource Critical
17	Water Quality
10	Human Environment
8	Fisheries
15	Public Participation

Proposals have received five levels of review:

Citizen Advisory Committees (CACs)	Feb. 7-8
Citizens' Affairs	Feb. 10
Monitoring	Feb. 13
Technical Review	Feb. 14-15
Technical Committee	Feb. 21

The Policy Committee will need to approve the money budgeted for the approved proposals later in the meeting. In lieu of APES staff making the proposal presentation to EPA in Washington, D.C., this year Tudor Davies, Director of OMEP intends to come to Raleigh.

B. Publications List

APES has 14 publications available for public distribution and has circulated the list of publications to all APES Committees. A copy of each publication is given to each APES committee member, to the major universities and colleges, a designated group of libraries, and to the public upon request.

C. Upcoming Meetings

The WRAL Coastal Celebration will be April 8-9, 1989. APES will make program information available there.

D. Data Management Coordinator

The data management coordinator position has been filled. Mr. Chuck Nelson (formerly with ARC/INFO) will begin work March 27th.

E. Public Participation

Joan Giordano is presently coordinating a review of the second draft of the Public Participation Plan. While some components of the plan are already being implemented, there are additional components taking the CACs through 1992.

II. Status and Trends Report

Bob Holman asked Stephanie Sanzone, EPA/OMEP, to give a status on Headquarters approving the funding for the Status and Trends Report proposal. She stated that the EPA/Grants office is reviewing the proposal in terms of how the State is handling the 25% matching funds. Mr. DeHihns said he would call EPA to determine the problem and to help get this resolved. Mr. Dehihns also noted that on February 6th, the EPA Acting Administrator delegated authority to the Regions for processing cooperative agreements. This should help to more efficiently facilitate the funding of proposals in the future.

III. Milestone Review

Bob Holman reviewed the progress to date and future work needed on completing program milestones. His summary is included as Attachment A. Question arose on the milestone required in December 1989 for a federal consistency report. It is similar to NOAA's existing program requirements and it was asked why we are being asked to duplicate this effort. OMEP is presently reviewing terminology and issuing guidance documents. APES is waiting for OMEP to issue guidance documents before proceeding further. Bob Holman discussed the idea of putting a panel of experts together to discuss completion of the CCMP milestone. This might include leaders of other estuary programs that have completed this process (e.g., Puget Sound or Buzzards Bay). Mike Gantt said it is extremely important that experts from within the State be included on the panel because they will be critical in implementation.

IV. Monitoring

Due to lack of EPA supplemental funding for monitoring, there is a lack of funding to continue with APES funded projects in this area. The TC and PC members were urged to identify other possible sources for funding APES monitoring. Monitoring is considered a critical APES need but in light of the other projects requiring funding, it may be impossible to fund directly through APES.

V. Environmental Concerns

Ted Bisterfeld noted that a new list of environmental concerns had been developed. The list is a result of a memo circulated December 9th for committee review and a February 10th memo circulated with responses to the request. Ted Bisterfeld asked if the PC had any comments on his February 10th memo. Budd Cross and Mike Gantt said they would meet with Ted for making editorial and other changes to his description of problems.

VI. Work Plan

Bob Holman said that a new reporting requirement of OMEP is for each estuary program to develop an annual work plan. In this regard, Derb Carter presented a rewrite for updating the background and purpose section of the workplan. His rewrite includes a commitment statement for meeting milestones, a management structure for implementation, and a program shift from human environment to cause and effect. Bob Holman noted that the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) subcommittee should probably review this rewrite before it is incorporated.

Motion: Mike Gantt motioned to accept Derb Carter's draft as is. It is to be sent to the Technical Committee for them to accept or to modify as needed. The TC approved document must then be sent to the PC for approval. Dan Ashe seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was called and the motion defeated.

Motion: Parker Chessen motioned that the PC finds Derb Carter's draft acceptable but that it should be incorporated into the entire workplan. The TC should work it into the workplan as appropriate and should resubmit the workplan to the PC. Budd Cross seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

VII. Citizens Advisory Committee

Parker Chessen expressed satisfaction with the round-table meeting held February 27th with all APES committees. One concern raised at that meeting still needs resolve. Specifically, the CAC's had reported on a resolution

3

recommending that a letter be sent to the NC legislature encouraging formulation of an APES oversight Council. Members of the PC had urged caution and concern about letters sent under the guise of APES policy and questioned if this procedure was acceptable. Since the CAC did not ask the PC to act on their resolution, it was asked whether the PC should be involved in their decision. DeHihns voiced concern that action taken by the CAC's outside of PC approval should not be considered APES policy. Because the committee members were selected based on responsible and competent qualities, the PC agreed that the CAC should be allowed to adopt resolutions outside of PC approval. However, all such resolutions must be brought to the attention of the PC. It was agreed that this can be done through the minutes.

VII. Executive Session

A closed executive session was held to discuss filling the PC vacancy left by Dr. Dirk Frankenberg. After the session, Mr. Dehahns summarized the PC decisions as follows:

- a. The PC will be expanded from 9 to 10 members.
- b. Invitations for two PC vacancies will be extended to Mr. Don Bryan, Mayor, Nags Head and Bill Queen, Director, Institute of Coastal and Marine Resources, ECU. Invitations will be extended to these individuals. Upon their acceptance, they must go through the appointment process required by the PC.

VIII. Budget

Bob Holman distributed the proposed 1988-1989 budget to the PC. He explained that extra program money received in the past from EPA/OMEP was no longer available to OMEP. As a result, there was some concern and some need for guidance on how to resolve monitoring research for APES. The State has already modified monitoring efforts and allocated money to incorporate APES needs and the State commitment cannot now be ignored. The TC had suggested going back to the researchers and asking where cuts could be made in their proposal. This might be one source for some additional money. It was noted that two new positions are being requested in the administrative budget. Dan Ashe questioned why the public participation administrative tasks were separated under administrative budget, when other program components were not. He felt this was a biased approach.

Dan Ashe also noted that he had just received the budget at this meeting which did not allow adequate time for review and decision making. The PC requires that such documents be received a least one week prior to the meeting. Since this was not done, more time was requested for conducting a proper budget review. A PC budget review meeting was agreed

upon, for 10:00 a.m. March 15th, in Raleigh. The purpose of that meeting will be to discuss the budget, implementation proposals, and to review the draft Public Information Work Plan. The PC is to submit budget questions to Bob Holman so that he is prepared to discuss it on 3/15/89. Bob is also to determine if the State expansion money is available to APES for possible monitoring funding.

Motion: Budd Cross motioned to adjourn the meeting. Derb Carter seconded. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO ESTUARINE STUDY

MILESTONE SCHEDULE

The Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study (A/P Study) was designated on November 14, 1987, with a commitment from the State of North Carolina and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Their joint goal is to enable resource managers to better preserve the natural productivity of the estuarine area by expanding relevant knowledge about the impact of human uses upon its physical, biological, and social systems. A total of 20 milestones were incorporated in the designation document in order to achieve the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP) after the first five years of the Study (Fall 1992). The management strategies found in the CCMP will be implemented during the second phase of the Study after 1992.

Progress of the A/P Study will be measured according to achieving the milestones on scheduled completion dates. The following information is a brief review of each milestone and their interaction to complete the CCMP on schedule. Some original milestone schedules have been modified due to changes that have occurred to the A/P Study as it has been evolving over the last two and one-half years. The final Status and Trends Report (STR) and CCMP are still set for completion in Fall 1990 and 1992, respectively. They are the major milestones of the study.

DESIGNATION SCHEDULE FOR THE ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO ESTUARINE STUDY
FEBRUARY, 1989

<u>DATE</u>	<u>MILESTONE</u>
January 1988	<p><u>Inventory of Existing Monitoring Programs</u></p> <p>This milestone was fulfilled through the Division of Environmental Management's biannual <u>305B Document</u>, the Division of Marine Fisheries annual <u>Review of DMF Survey</u> and U.S. Geological Survey's annual <u>Water Resource Data-N.C.</u> report. These federal and state documents provide information as to the location and condition of a certain water body as it relates to water quality and fish stock assessment in the Albemarle-Pamlico Sounds and tributaries.</p>
March 1988	<p><u>Baseline Monitoring Program Design</u></p> <p>This milestone was fulfilled by combining the earlier milestone to develop a comprehensive baseline monitoring program to fill in data gaps of missing critical sites and parameters in the study area. This draft plan was approved by the Technical Committee at their May, 1988 meeting. The actual plan went into effect in October, 1988 with the start up of the Division of Environmental Management's and U. S. Geological Survey's projects to fulfill this monitoring effort.</p>
April 1988	<p><u>Identification of Potential Contributions by Other Federal Agencies</u></p> <p>This milestone is an ongoing effort with federal agencies to help complete certain milestones.</p> <p>U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Obstructions to migration of anadromous fish -- Wetland mapping of coastal North Carolina -- Baseline Contaminants Study-determination of "hot spots" through animal tissue analysis <p>National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Aerial survey of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV)-to identify and map SAV along the eastern fringe of the study area -- Provides and assists in obtaining fisheries related data

U. S. Geological Survey

- Off-site effects of Agricultural BMPs
- Analysis of existing hydrologic and water quality data
- Flow and flow patterns in the Neuse and Pamlico River Systems
- Water quality and flow data from sites throughout the state
- Other related special water resource's publications such as estuary physical characteristics

Soil Conservation Service

- Provide technical assistance to N. C. Agricultural Cost Sharing Program
- Farm plans to control soil erosion
- Develop county soil maps (e.g. Hyde County)

Agricultural Stabilization & Conservation Service

- Provides large scale aerial photographs of the entire state approximately every five years
- ASCS's own agricultural cost sharing program

June 1988

Key Data Resources Identified

This milestone was fulfilled by documenting the key data resources that the N. C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development divisions currently have available. There were 43 data sets identified in a digital format.

December 1988

Priority Environmental Concerns Reviewed and Reassessed by Policy/Technical Committees/EPA

The following environmental concerns are found in the A/P Study draft work plan. The committees were presented these concerns to review at their November, 1988 meetings and asked to comment on them by January, 1989. All comments submitted were in support of the priority list with several modifications recommended to the language of specific environmental concerns.

- 1) Declines in fisheries productivity
- 2) Ulcerative sore diseases
- 3) Anoxia-related fish kills
- 4) Changes in distribution patterns of aquatic sessile organisms
- 5) Impairment of nursery area function
- 6) Eutrophication
- 7) Habitat loss
- 8) Shellfish closure
- 9) Toxicant effects

February 1989

Data Base Priorities

Land Resources Information Service (LRIS) will complete an assessment of data needs. Interviews with 100 individual users and follow-up questionnaires will be evaluated to prioritize data needs for the program.

September 1989

Inventory of Relevant Federal Programs Completed

This inventory provided in the earlier document entitled "Existing Management Programs" by D. Brower, will be modified to address only the relevant existing federal programs. Information from this inventory will be utilized in the federal consistency report due in December, 1989.

September 1989

Draft Scoping Report on Status and Trends

One document will be produced to incorporate three milestones. First, the report will define the present status of four categories of concern which include resource critical areas, water quality, fisheries and human environment. Next, the overall trend of each category will be evaluated. Third, the load/transport/fate relationship of key pollutants, such as nitrogen and phosphorus, will also be reviewed. Finally, the probable causes of significant environmental changes will be discussed in each of the four sections. The identification of probable causes is due in June, 1989 but will be incorporated into the Status and Trends Scoping Report due September, 1989, along with the review of probable causes by scientists and managers which is not due until November, 1989.

December 1989

Schedule for Data Management Activities Established

The data manager will take the assessment of data needs (February, 1989) prepared by LRIS and develop a schedule of activities to complete the needed data layers (e.g. land use, wetlands, soils, hydrology, etc.) for the program.

December 1989

Federal Consistency Report Completed

The consistency report is a requirement of all national estuarine programs. This document reviews how effective are the federal assistance programs and how consistent are they with the goals of the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study. The Research Triangle Institute through the work of R. Nichols has started the first step in completing this milestone by evaluating environmental management and resource protection programs in the study area.

January 1990

Outline of Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) Completed

The final milestone in this phase of the study will be the CCMP. A blue ribbon panel of recognized experts will be called together in October, 1989. Their task will be to take the Status and Trends Scoping Report and their collective knowledge of estuarine systems to prepare an outline of the CCMP. The outline will be circulated to all administrative board members, resource managers, scientists, legislators and the general public for comment. A second charge of the panel will be to develop an outline of potential management strategies and cost evaluation. This milestone has been previously described as a separate milestone from the CCMP and due in April, 1991.

July 1990

Draft Monitoring Plan (Management Effectiveness)

This monitoring plan will define the mechanism to gage the eventual effectiveness of the implemented CCMP during the second phase (beyond 1992) of the study. Therefore, defining the monitoring types, numbers and locations will be critical in properly assessing elements of the implemented CCMP.

October 1990

Final Report on Status and Trends and Probable Causes

The Status and Trends Scoping Report (September, 1989) will be evaluated by resource managers, all administrative board members, scientists, legislators and the general public for comment. More details will be added to each of the four categories of concern especially from a management perspective to complete each section. The draft report will be available sometime in August, 1990.

November 1991

Compliance Schedule for Action Plans Developed

This plan is to be an overview of the demonstration projects that are undertaken over the five-year period of the study. Certain early demonstration projects that are judged to be effective in protecting a certain resource or use will be incorporated into the CCMP. These effective demonstration projects will be recommended for the entire study area. The draft copy of this plan will be available in August, 1991.

January 1992 Draft Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)

The outline of the CCMP (January, 1990) will be refined over a two-year period. During this time the outline will be expanded into a full working document. Needed information will be obtained during this period to better define the specific management efforts the public will support. Input from the same parties involved with the Status and Trends Report will be requested during the development of a draft CCMP. Public meetings will be held in many locations across the study area to gain further public input and support.

January 1992 Recommend Alternatives to Resolve Federal Inconsistences

Review of the federal consistency report (December, 1989) and Status and Trends Report (October, 1990) will outline the key management strategies. Management programs that are inconsistent with the A/P Study and that are determined to diminish the use of the estuarine resources will be highlighted. Recommendations of alternative approaches will be incorporated in to the CCMP.

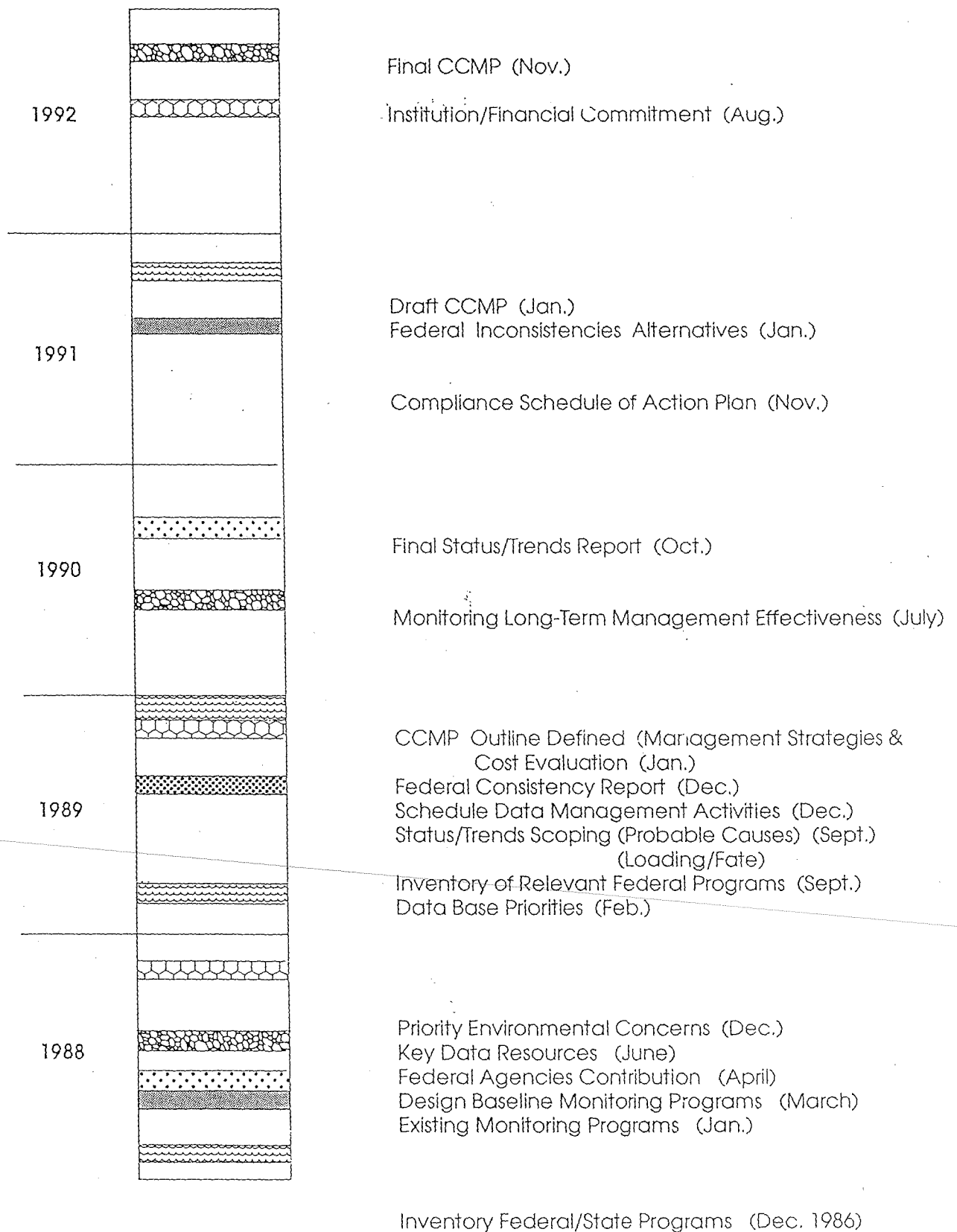
August 1992 Institutional and Financial Commitments for Action Plans Secured

Institutions will be identified that will have responsibility for carrying out the CCMP in the second phase of the study (beyond 1992) as defined in the draft CCMP (January, 1992). A financial commitment must be secured in order to fulfill implementation of the CCMP. This will involve assisting state legislators in establishing the needed mechanisms to fund the management strategy.

November 1992 Final Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)

This document will complete Phase I of the A/P Study which is to establish the CCMP. The management strategy when implemented during Phase II (after 1992) will ensure the ecological integrity of the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine area by protecting and improving critical areas, water quality, fisheries and the human environment.

ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO ESTUARINE STUDY MILESTONES



Policy Committee Meeting
2/28/89

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Phone</u>
George Everett	NRC D - DCM	733-2293
W. Gutt	Fish & Wildlife Service	(919) 856-4520
W. Sub Carter	PCAC	(919) 833-4859
Barbara Jensen	ACAC	(919) 335-0821
Lee DeHines	U.S. EPA	(404) 347-4727
Bill Coby	N.C. NRCD	(919) 733-4984
Dan Ashe	Congressman Jones	(202) 226-2460
FORD CROSS	NOAA	(919) 728-8724
Bob Holman	A/P Study	(919) 733-0314
Marguerite Ruffin	Consultant	(301) 849-5815
Stephanie Sanyone	EPA/OMEP	(202) 475-7137
Ted Bysterfeld	EPA, Region 4	(404) 347-2126
LARRY MINDORK	VA Council on the Env't	801/ 786-4500
Jean Giordano	A/P Study	919/ 946-6481
RICHARD B. HAMILTON	NC WILDLIFE COM.	919-733-3391
Tony Quay	PCAC	828-9874
Helen Davis	A/P Study	(919) 733-0314
John Green	PCAC	919-821-8574
Joe Hollowell	Allegheny Commission	919-482-4578
DON FLOWERS	"	-426-5753
Eric Carl	NREED	919 733 4984
Lorraine Shinn	NRCD	919 946-6481
Tom Ellis	NC Dept. of Agriculture	919 733-7125
Susan King	CAC	633-4915
Scott Jeter	to Daily Advertiser	919 3350841
Joe Smith	Allegheny CAC	919-398-3528
Marcia Stults	Virginia - Plot WP	919 332-4043



State of North Carolina
Department of Natural Resources and Community Development
ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO ESTUARINE STUDY
512 North Salisbury Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

James G. Martin, Governor
S. Thomas Rhodes, Secretary

Robert E. Holman, Director

February 8, 1989

MEMORANDUM

TO: Policy Committee
FROM: Robert E. Holman, Ph.D. *REH*
SUBJECT: February 28 Policy Committee Agenda

Enclosed is the agenda for the Policy Committee meeting to convene February 28, 1989. The main subject is to review the recommendations of the Technical Committee concerning the 1989-90 budget. Two other subjects are consideration of committee member replacement and review of program milestones.

This is a very important meeting and I hope you can attend. Please let me know if you have any additional or other comments concerning the agenda.

REH:kn

Enclosure

cc: Technical Committee
Citizens' Advisory Committees
Joan Giordano
Ted Bisterfeld

AGENDA

ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO ESTUARINE STUDY
POLICY COMMITTEE

TIME: 9 a.m., February 28, 1989

LOCATION: Governor Tryon Ballroom
Sheraton Hotel & Marina
New Bern, NC

9:00-9:05	Call to Order	Lee DeHihns
9:05-9:15	Consideration of Minutes	
9:15-9:30	Director's Report	Bob Holman
9:30-10:00	Review of Milestones and Environmental Concern List Revisions	Bob Holman/ Ted Bisterfeld
10:00-10:15	Citizens' Advisory Committees	Derb Carter/ Parker Chesson
10:15-10:45	Committee Member Replacement	
10:45-11:30	Technical Committee Report (Budget Recommendations)	
11:30-11:35	Review Meeting Schedule	
11:35-12:00	Public Comment/Questions	

2/6/89