

**June 16-17, 2008**  
**New Orleans, Louisiana**  
**Agenda**

*17<sup>th</sup> Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Watershed  
Nutrient Task Force Meeting & Signing Ceremony*

**Objectives of this Meeting:**

- 1) Public release of 2008 Action Plan
- 2) Approve the release of the 2008 Annual Operating Plan
- 3) Discuss implementing the Action Plan, and composition and effectiveness of the Task Force

**Day One: Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, The Historic New Orleans Collection, 533 Royal Street**

**1:00 - 5:00pm Release of 2008 Action Plan & Signing Ceremony**

**1:00 Welcome**

*Benjamin Grumbles, Task Force Chair*

*Lou Buatt, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality*

*Dr. Len Bahr, Louisiana Governor's Office of Coastal Activities*

**1:30 Introduce 2008 Action Plan**

**Lead: Darrell Brown, EPA**

Mr. Brown will describe the development of the 2008 Action Plan. He will also describe the key actions and content of the Action Plan, focusing on how this plan is different from the 2001 Action Plan, and how the Task Force plans to implement the Actions through the Annual Operating Plan.

**2:00 Task Force Comment**

The Task Force will have the opportunity to share their thoughts on the Action Plan, describe their agency's role in the increased accountability and specificity of the revised document, and highlight their success stories.

**2:45 Break**

**3:00 Signing Ceremony**

**Lead: Benjamin Grumbles, EPA**

The Task Force will publicly sign a poster commemorating the release of the 2008 Action Plan and there will be opportunity for press photos.

**4:00 Celebration and Press Q&A (refreshments)**

The Task Force and public attendees can visit the "Surrounded by Water" exhibit and celebrate the release of the 2008 Action Plan. Press will have the opportunity to informally interview individual Task Force members.

**5:00 Adjourn**

17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico  
Watershed Nutrient Task Force

**Day Two: Tuesday June 17<sup>th</sup>, Marriott New Orleans, 555 Canal Street**

**8:30 - 12:30 Public Session**

**8:30 Convene (light breakfast)**

**Welcome**

**Lead: *Benjamin Grumbles, EPA***

**8:45 Presentation of the 2008 Annual Operating Plan**

**Lead: *Darrell Brown, EPA***

Mr. Brown will describe the content of the 2008 Annual Operating Plan and its role as a roadmap to the Action Plan. He will also address the preparation of the 2009 Annual Operating Plan and the Annual Report. Task Force members will agree on process for completion and publication of Annual Operating Plan.

**9:45 Presentation on State Nutrient Reduction Strategy**

**Lead: *Katie Flahive, EPA***

Ms. Flahive will present on the status of State Nutrient Reduction Strategies.

**10:00 Break**

**10:15 Discuss Composition and Effectiveness of the Task Force**

**Lead: *Benjamin Grumbles, EPA***

This discussion will begin deliberations on how the composition of the Task Force might be changed to improve its effectiveness. Topics for discussion will include the benefits of inviting additional Mississippi River Basin states and Federal agencies to join the Task Force, having additional representatives from each participating state or agency, and creating an executive committee within the larger confines of the Task Force.

**10:45 Public Comment**

This time is set aside for members of the public to give input on presentations and discussions.

**11:15 2008 Farm Bill Presentation**

**Lead: *USDA***

Representatives from USDA agencies will give presentations on the possible implications of the newly enacted Farm Bill.

**12:00 Next Steps and Actions**

**Lead: *Benjamin Grumbles, EPA***

The Task Force will give final directions to the Coordinating Committee on next steps including:

- Release of the 2008 Annual Operating Plan
- Outreach and distribution of the 2008 Action Plan and 2008 Annual Operating Plan
- Date and venue of 18<sup>th</sup> Task Force Meeting

**12:30 Adjourn**