

RESOLUTION 2017-11

NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION FOR HIGHLANDS COUNCIL STAFF TO CONDUCT THE ‘FIVE PLUS ONE’ PUBLIC HEARINGS BEFORE THE “PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE HIGHLANDS REGIONAL MASTER PLAN” CAN BE ADOPTED AS AN ADDENDUM TO THE HIGHLANDS REGIONAL MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act or Act), N.J.S.A. 13:20-1 et seq., created a public body corporate and politic with corporate succession known as the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council or Council); and

WHEREAS, Section 8(a) of the Highlands Act mandates that the Council prepare and adopt a Regional Master Plan (RMP) for the Highlands Region; and also states that the RMP “shall be periodically revised and updated at least once every six years, after public hearings”; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council is completing the six-year review of the RMP required by the Highlands Act and has released a draft Monitoring Program Recommendation Report (MPRR) for public comment, which includes one or more recommendations to amend the RMP; and

WHEREAS, the Council prepared a document entitled “Procedure for Considering Proposals to Amend the Highlands Regional Master Plan” (Procedure); and

WHEREAS, on January 19, 2017 the Council approved a Resolution stipulating that the Highlands Council shall utilize the Procedure going forward to finalize the MPRR and to consider any proposals to amend the RMP arising out of the MPRR, and that the Highlands Council shall adopt a final version of the Procedure as an amendment to the RMP; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council must adopt the Procedure as an addendum to the RMP before the Council can consider and adopt any other amendments to the RMP arising out of the MPRR; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Act provides that the RMP may be periodically revised and updated after “public hearings”; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:20-5.j, no action authorized by the Highlands Council shall have force or effect until ten (10) days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Council has been delivered to the Governor for review, unless prior to the expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Highlands Council staff is hereby authorized and directed to hold five (5) public hearings in various locations in the Highlands Region, and at least one (1) public hearing in Trenton on the Procedure before it can be adopted by the Highlands Council as an amendment of, and addendum to, the RMP.

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CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Highlands Council at its regular meeting held on the 17TH day of August, 2017.



 Jim Rilee, Chairman

**Vote on the Approval of
This Resolution**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Alstede	✓		✓			
Councilmember Carluccio				✓		
Councilmember Dougherty				✓		
Councilmember Dressler				✓		
Councilmember Francis			✓			
Councilmember Holtaway		✓	✓			
Councilmember James				✓		
Councilmember Richko			✓			
Councilmember Sebetich			✓			
Councilmember Tfank			✓			
Councilmember Visioli				✓		
Councilmember Vohden			✓			
Councilmember Walton			✓			
Chairman Rilee			✓			