The NJ Statewide Water Supply Plan of 1996 “Water for the 21st Century: The Vital Resource”, is used to identify the water supply planning area in which the contaminated site is located and determines the projected water supply status to the year 2040 (deficit /critical or surplus). The Department uses the projected water supply planning area status to provide a relative indication of the seriousness of the injury to ground water. This is based upon the prospective scarcity of this important resource, with a higher injury designation for those areas projected to be in a deficit by the year 2040.