

RESOLUTION FOR THE MINUTES

A RESOLUTION authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a joint funding agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey for the development of additional years of historic precipitation and temperature data to be used for water supply planning simulations.

WHEREAS, the Commission is in the process of evaluating water supply availability for the future in the context of the DRBC study entitled *Strategy for Sustainable Water Resources – 2060*; and

WHEREAS, in October of 2015, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) completed a hydrologic model of the Delaware River Basin known as “WATER” (an acronym for “Water Availability Tool for Environmental Resources”) that can be used to model a variety of potential future hydrologic conditions based on different climate scenarios and future land use changes; and

WHEREAS, DRBC staff are currently using WATER to generate climate-driven hydrologic input data for the Delaware River Basin Planning Support Tool (DRB-PST) for the purpose of simulating current and alternative flow management scenarios under potential future hydrologic conditions; and

WHEREAS, such simulations, including under potential worst-case and future hydrologic conditions, can provide invaluable information regarding water supply availability and the operation of Commission-owned reservoir storage; and

WHEREAS, the precipitation and temperature data provided with WATER do not include the drought of record, which occurred in the 1960s; and

WHEREAS, as the original developer of WATER and the associated data, the USGS is singularly qualified to develop a historic record of precipitation and temperature that includes the 1960’s-drought period for use by WATER to generate input data for DRB-PST; USGS also has a clear understanding of the scope of services involved and has worked with DRBC staff on similar efforts; and

WHEREAS, the USGS has a shared interest in ensuring that the best available data are used in DRBC’s analysis and is able to provide a portion of the funds required for this effort; and

WHEREAS, section 11.5 of the Compact provides in relevant part for the DRBC and authorized agencies of the signatory parties to provide one another with technical services, advice and consultation within the limits of available appropriations; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delaware River Basin Commission that:

1. The Executive Director is hereby authorized to enter into a joint funding agreement with the USGS for the development of temperature and precipitation data sets for use in the WATER model (the “Project”).

2. The value of the Project shall not exceed \$47,000 of which the DRBC will contribute no more than \$33,010, with the balance to be contributed by USGS.
3. DRBC funds for this effort will be disbursed from the Commission's Water Supply Storage Fund.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

ADOPTED: September 13, 2017