RESOLUTION 2019-13

NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL ADOPTION OF THE "HIGHLANDS PLAN CONFORMANCE PROCEDURES" 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 has completed the six-year review of the RMP required by the Highlands Act and has released a draft Monitoring Program Recommendation Report (MPRR), which includes one or more recommendations to amend the RMP; and

WHEREAS, on September 27, 2017 the Council approved a Resolution adopting the final "RMP Addendum 2018-1 Procedure for Considering Proposals to Amend the Highlands Regional Master Plan" (Amendment Procedure) as an amendment of, and addendum to, the RMP; and

WHEREAS, the Council prepared a document entitled "Highlands Plan Conformance Procedures" (Plan Conformance Procedures); and

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2019, the Highlands Council adopted a resolution authorizing Council staff to conduct the requisite public hearings under the Amendment Procedure before the Plan Conformance Procedures may be adopted as an amendment to the RMP; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council staff has conducted five (5) public hearings in various locations in the Highlands Region and one (1) public hearing in Trenton during the months of April and May 2019 to solicit public comment on the draft Plan Conformance Procedures; and

WHEREAS, Council staff has provided the Highlands Council with its responses to all comments and other input received from interested parties during the public comment period, including any proposed changes to the draft Plan Conformance Procedures based upon the public comments received; and

WHEREAS, the RMP Amendment Committee has considered all proposed changes to the draft Plan Conformance Procedures and has forwarded its recommendation to Council that it adopt the final Plan Conformance Procedures as an addendum to the RMP; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:20-5.j, no action authorized by the Highlands Council to amend the RMP shall have force or effect until thirty (30) 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 hereby adopts the final "Highlands Plan Conformance Procedures," as an 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 18th day of July 2019.

Carl J. Richko, Chairman

Vote on the Approval of The Resolution	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Alstede Councilmember Carluccio				$\overline{}$		
Councilmember Dougherty			√			
Councilmember Dressler			<u> </u>			
Councilmember Francis						
Councilmember Holtaway		<u> </u>	<u> </u>			
Councilmember James	<u> </u>		<u> </u>			
Councilmember Sebetich						$\sqrt{}$
Councilmember Visioli			<u> </u>			
Councilmember Vohden			√			
Councilmember Walton			$\sqrt{}$			
Chairman Richko			$\sqrt{}$			