INTRODUCTION

In August 2010, the Department issued its FFY2011 Clean Water Priority System Intended Use Plan and Project Priority List proposal document to solicit interest in the FFY2011/SFY2012 Financing Program and explain the Department’s funding policies for the forthcoming financing cycle. In January, 2011, the Department issued amendments to announce a second chance opportunity for project sponsors, to change the financing terms and to establish a project ranking methodology, funding policies and issue a "Call for Projects" that are designed to remove pollutants that adversely impact the Barnegat Bay.

The Department is proposing to amend the FFY2011/SFY2012 Priority System document to allow any of the Barnegat Bay basin retrofit projects listed in the approved SFY2012 legislation that are able to submit complete, planning, design and a loan application on or before April 2, 2012, an opportunity to be financed in the SFY2012 Program and the ability to receive up to 25% of their funding in the form of a principal forgiveness loan. The ability of the Department to approve financing for these projects under the current approved legislation expires on June 30, 2012 and all approvals and loan awards must occur on or before that date. Project sponsors interested in this package are encouraged to apply for all necessary permits and approvals and submit complete documents as soon as possible to allow sufficient time for Department approvals and public bidding before the end of the fiscal year.

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

On February 2, 2012, the Department distributed a public notice that describes the proposed changes and that announced the availability of this amendment to the FFY2011 Priority System/Intended Use Plan proposal. The notice was also posted at http://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/cwpl.htm and http://www.njeit.org/ and was distributed via a mailing to the standard mailing list of potential project sponsors and other interested parties.

The comment period for this proposal will close on March 5, 2012.
Written comments on the proposed amendments should be submitted to:

Mail Code 401-03D
NJ Department of Environmental Protection
Eugene Chebra, Acting Assistant Director
Municipal Finance and Construction Element
P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ, 08625-0420

All comments submitted in accordance with the deadline will be considered in the preparation of the final FFY2011 Priority System/Intended Use Plan documents, as amended.

If you have any questions, please contact:
Scott Shymon, Acting Chief, Policy, Program Development and Administration 609-292-3144
Steve Betz, Acting Chief, Bureau of Engineering and Environmental Reviews 609-633-1170
Gautam Patel, Chief, Bureau of Construction and TWA/CSO Permitting 609-633-1180

Sincerely,

Eugene Chebra, Acting Assistant Director
Municipal Finance and Construction Element