

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

**MEETING OF DECEMBER 10, 2025**

Minutes

Commissioners Present: Greg Patterson, Delaware, Chair  
Jill Whitcomb, Pennsylvania, Vice Chair  
Steve Domber, New Jersey, Second Vice Chair  
Laura Bitner, United States  
Karen Stainbrook, New York

DRBC Staff Participants: Kristen Bowman Kavanagh, Executive Director  
Kenneth J. Warren, DRBC General Counsel  
Pamela Bush, Commission Secretary and Assistant General Counsel  
Amy Shallcross, Manager, Operations Branch  
David Kovach, Manager, Project Review  
Thomas Amidon, Manager, Water Resource Modeling

The business meeting of December 10, 2025 was conducted remotely. The meeting also was broadcast publicly *via* Zoom webinar and livestreamed on the DRBC YouTube channel. Recordings were made on both Zoom and YouTube. The agenda was posted on the DRBC website ten or more days before the meeting date.

In his capacity as the FY 2025-26 Commission Chair, Greg Patterson, Secretary of the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (“DNREC”) and DRBC Alternate Commissioner for Governor Matt Meyer, called the meeting to order.

At Secretary Patterson’s request, DRBC’s Commission Secretary and Assistant General Counsel, Pam Bush, called the roll. Present were: Steve Domber, New Jersey State Geologist, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (“NJDEP”), alternate Commissioner for Governor Phil Murphy; Karen Stainbrook, Director of the Bureau of Water Resource Management at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (“NYSDEC”), alternate Commissioner for Governor Kathy Hochul; Jill Whitcomb, Deputy Secretary for Water Programs at Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (“PADEP”), alternate Commissioner for Governor Josh Shapiro; and Laura Bittner, Chief of Hydrology, Hydraulics and Coastal Section, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (“USACE,” “Corps of Engineers,” or “Corps”), Philadelphia District, alternate Commissioner on behalf of Colonel Jesse T. Curry, North Atlantic Division Commander, USACE.

Kristen Bowman Kavanagh, DRBC Executive Director, and Kenneth Warren, the Commission’s General Counsel, also introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes. Ms. Bush had previously circulated draft Minutes of the Commission’s August 26, 2025 special business meeting, as well as Minutes from the Commission’s September 10, 2025 business meeting. Having received no comments or corrections on either, she recommended that the Minutes for both meetings be approved as presented. Ms. Whitcomb so moved, Mr. Domber offered a second, and without discussion, the Minutes of the August 26, 2025 special meeting and the September 10, 2025 business meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

Announcements. Ms. Bush announced several upcoming DRBC advisory committee meetings, noting that some of these had been postponed due to the federal government shutdown, and were now rescheduled.

- DRBC’s Regulated Flow Advisory Committee was to meet on Monday, December 15, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. *via Zoom.*
- The Advisory Committee on Climate Change was to meet on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. *via Zoom.*
- The Toxics Advisory Committee was to meet on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. *via Zoom.*
- The Water Management Advisory Committee was to meet on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. *via Zoom.*

Additional details for these meetings were available on DRBC’s website.

Hydrologic Conditions. DRBC Water Resource Operations Manager Amy Shallcross presented the hydrologic conditions report. Ms. Shallcross’s presentation can be accessed at: [nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/HydrologicConditions\\_shallcross\\_121025.pdf](https://nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/HydrologicConditions_shallcross_121025.pdf)

Ms. Shallcross explained that the purpose of the hydrologic report was central to DRBC’s mission to provide trusted, effective and coordinated management of the basin’s water resources. Ms. Shallcross thanked Sara Sayed and Fanghui Chen for their work gathering and updating hydrologic information to present on DRBC’s website.

*Hydrologic cycle.* Ms. Shallcross provided an overview of the hydrologic cycle, by which water travels around the earth, the planets, and the atmosphere.

*Precipitation.* Presenting a bar graph of precipitation in the upper basin during the 12 months from December 2024 to November 2025, Ms. Shallcross observed that the upper portion of the basin had received below normal precipitation during the last five months of the year. Likewise, bar graphs of precipitation in the middle and lower basins from December 2024 through November 2025 showed that, with the exception of July 2025, those portions of the basin also had received normal or less than normal precipitation during the last five months of the year. Maps showing cumulative precipitation over the last 365 days indicated that cumulative total rainfall remained below normal except for the northwest portion of the basin, which had received above normal precipitation. Specifically, the upper portion of the basin received 55 inches of rainfall, or about

8 inches above the normal, while the middle portion of the basin received 30 inches, or more than 10 inches below normal, and the lower portion of the basin received approximately 35 inches, or about 6 inches below normal.

Precipitation over the 90 days preceding the December 10, 2025 meeting had varied, but maps revealed a drying trend in rainfall totals, including below normal precipitation during the 30 days immediately preceding the meeting. The seven-day forecast included precipitation, but suggested the precipitation would likely fall as snow in the upper basin. Because it would be held in snowpack, the moisture would not result in significant increases in flow in the river.

*Streamflow.* Ms. Shallcross displayed a streamflow map indicating that most of the basin's tributaries were measuring at below or much below normal flows, reflecting low precipitation and drier than normal conditions.

Ms. Shallcross also displayed hydrographs of flows past Montague and Trenton, New Jersey. She explained that in order to meet flow objectives at Montague, releases were made from the New York City reservoirs in the headwaters of the basin. Likewise, to meet flow objectives in Trenton, releases were made from two federal reservoirs – one in the Lehigh Valley and one in the Schuylkill Valley. Ms. Shallcross noted that the hydrographs indicated that since October 2025, streamflow at both locations had mostly been below the median.

*Special Event.* Ms. Shallcross highlighted that a reenactment of George Washington's crossing of the Delaware River was scheduled to occur on Christmas Day at Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania. She noted that in recent years, planned crossings were cancelled due to insufficient streamflow in the Delaware River.

*Reservoir Storage.* Ms. Shallcross displayed bar graphs showing storage in both the federal reservoirs – Blue Marsh and Beltzville – and in the New York City reservoirs – Neversink, Pepacton, and Cannonsville. The bar graphs showed that the Beltzville reservoir was almost at full capacity. Blue Marsh reservoir was at 77.9 percent capacity, the requisite amount for the winter pool. The bar graphs also showed that the total capacity of the New York City reservoirs was 60.7 percent, which was below normal for this time of year.

Ms. Shallcross also presented a hydrograph showing: (a) combined storage in New York City's Delaware Basin reservoirs during the previous twelve months; (b) median storage over the same period based on decades of data; and (c) regulatory drought storage levels. The hydrograph showed that due to heavy precipitation in May 2025, the reservoirs had reached full capacity and had started to spill. However, by December 2025, combined storage was very low, and managers were concerned the basin might be entering drought watch stage. Fortunately, the basin received sufficient rainfall to stay out of drought watch for the time being. As of the meeting date, storage in the City's three reservoirs was 48 billion gallons above drought watch. However, any additional precipitation in the ensuing weeks would potentially fall as snow and be stored as snowpack, which would not add to reservoir storage totals.

*Reservoir releases for flow augmentation.* Ms. Shallcross provided a summary of the reservoir releases required to meet the Montague and Trenton flow objectives since the start of the year. She explained that New York City had released 48 billion gallons of water to meet the Montague flow objective and approximately 4.3 billion gallons to assist in meeting the Trenton flow objective. Approximately one billion gallons had been released from Beltzville and 1.8 billion gallons from Blue Marsh to meet the Trenton flow objective. In total, approximately 7.1 billion gallons were released in 2025, which was 1.8 times more than in the previous year. Ms. Shallcross also noted that 70 percent of the TEFO bank had been used to date.

*Salt Front.* Ms. Shallcross explained that the purpose of the Trenton flow objective is to repel salinity, which is monitored based on the location of the salt front, *i.e.*, the 7-day average location in the Delaware Estuary at which the chloride concentration is 250 milligrams per liter. Ms. Shallcross displayed a map of the salt front location, which was currently located at River Mile 84.4, near Eddystone, Pennsylvania. She noted that earlier in the year, the salt front had reached River Mile 91, which is near the Philadelphia International Airport.

Ms. Shallcross also shared a graph comparing the movement of the salt front in 2025 with other recent dry years – 2016 and 2024.

*Groundwater.* Ms. Shallcross displayed groundwater status maps color-coded by county for June 16, September 8, and December 8, 2025. With few exceptions, the December 2025 county map documented that the current groundwater levels were below or much below normal.

*Drought Conditions.* A map published by the U.S. Drought Monitor showed that while conditions in the upper basin were largely normal, a large portion of the middle basin was experiencing moderate drought while a portion of the basin, particularly in northwestern New Jersey, was experiencing severe drought. Ms. Shallcross noted that although conditions were expected to abate somewhat, several counties in Pennsylvania and New York were in drought watch status while the entire state of New Jersey was in drought warning.

*Seasonal Outlook.* NOAA's Seasonal Outlook indicated that through February, temperatures in the basin were expected to be above normal, and precipitation was expected to be normal to below normal. Ms. Shallcross also noted that she typically checks the Farmers' Almanac, which indicated that the northeast would be cold and snow-filled this winter. Ms. Shallcross warned that cold temperatures could lead to ice build-up in the river and the possibility of ice jams, like those that occurred in 2018 in Trenton, New Jersey. Ms. Shallcross also advised that she would share an ice jam presentation at the March business meeting.

*Summary.* In summary, Ms. Shallcross noted that it had been a roller coaster of a year when it came to hydrologic conditions. The basin had started the year in drought, returned to normal conditions, and then returned to various drought stages due to dry weather. She also noted that the salt front had reached its farthest point upstream since the 1960s drought, and that the three-month outlook

from NOAA forecasted a warm and dry winter. She cautioned, however, that this outlook could change.

Executive Director's Report. Highlights of Ms. Bowman Kavanagh's report to the Commissioners are set forth below.

*Retirement.* Ms. Bowman Kavanagh congratulated John Yagecic, DRBC's Manager of Water Quality Assessment, who was to retire from the Commission at the end of December 2025, after 25 years on the staff. John joined the Commission in December 2000 as a Water Resource Engineer/ Modeler. He became a supervisor of the Standards and Assessment Section in 2007, and in 2016 he was promoted to his current position as Manager of Water Quality Assessment. In this role, John supervised and directed the work of a professional staff of engineers and scientists, engaged in the development of water quality standards and supporting regulations for maintaining and improving water quality; planned and conducted water quality monitoring studies; and aided in the preparation of DRBC's biennial water quality assessment. John also served as the long-time staff liaison to the Commission's Water Quality Advisory Committee.

John received his engineering degrees from Penn State University and the University of Illinois at Chicago. Prior to joining the Commission, he spent nine years working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He became a registered professional civil engineer in multiple states and was an adjunct instructor at Temple University for many years.

Ms. Bowman Kavanagh said that as impressive as these accomplishments are, they are merely a snapshot of John's professional career and do not do justice to his value to the Commission. She emphasized John's significant and long-lasting contributions to improving water quality in the Basin through his scientific work, his innovative ideas, and his ability to bring together people with diverse viewpoints in the spirit of collaboration. She added that John's knowledge and expertise were matched only by his tenacity and drive to solve problems and make improvements. He took his role as a public servant seriously and was highly respected by his colleagues within DRBC and by water and environmental professionals throughout the Basin. She said John would be greatly missed at the DRBC, and on behalf of the staff and Commissioners, she wished him all the best in the future.

*Recognition.* Ms. Bowman Kavanagh recognized two other staff members who were celebrating 20 years of service at the Commission: Communications Specialist Kate Schmidt, and Manager of Water Resource Planning Chad Pindar.

Ms. Bowman Kavanagh also recognized Meg McGuire, founder of *Delaware Currents*, a news magazine that started in 2015 with a focus on stories from the Delaware River Basin. Meg announced she would be closing *Delaware Currents* at the end of 2025. Ms. Bowman Kavanagh wished to thank her for her efforts over the past decade to shine a brighter light on the basin's shared waters.

*DO Criteria.* On September 22, 2025, the EPA issued a final rule establishing revised federal water quality standards for the protection and propagation of resident and migratory aquatic life in a 38-mile reach of the Delaware River from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania downstream to Wilmington, Delaware. Ms. Bowman Kavanah noted that the final rule would help improve water quality to protect sensitive aquatic species in the Delaware River, including the federally endangered Atlantic Sturgeon and Shortnose Sturgeon. The new standards issued by EPA established propagation as an achievable "designated use" and revised dissolved oxygen ("DO") water quality criteria to protect this use.

Subsequently, in October 2025, DRBC published *A Strategy to Implement New Dissolved Oxygen Criteria in the Delaware River Estuary*. This document outlines a technical approach for a wasteload allocation study to be performed by the DRBC and that the states may use as a basis for determining valid numerical effluent limitations to be used in discharge permits. Ms. Bowman Kavanah said DRBC scientists would continue to work in close cooperation with the EPA and the estuary co-regulator states of Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania to support EPA's new DO criteria.

*Presentations.* The above and other work of the Commission were shared with the public at the September and December meetings of DRBC's Water Quality Advisory Committee and at the October meeting of the Water Management Advisory Committee.

Staff also presented on DRBC water resource programs at:

- PADEP Citizen's Advisory Council
- Upper Delaware River Network's "Upper Delaware River Rendezvous"
- Water Resource Association of the DRB "Value of Water" conference
- New Jersey Water Environment Association's "Fall Technology Transfer Seminar"
- Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed's "Annual Delaware River Watershed Forum"
- New Jersey American Water Resources Association's Annual Meeting
- Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors
- North American Water Loss (NAWL) conference

*Additional outreach and education.* DRBC staff also engaged in outreach and educational activities at:

- Trenton RiverFest
- Delaware River Festival
- DRBC's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Trenton Community Day
- AJ Meerwald Legislative Outreach event

*2024 Annual Report.* DRBC's 2024 Annual Report, highlighting the Commission's work and achievements over the 2024 calendar year, was published in the fall of 2025 and is available online.

Following Ms. Bowman Kavanagh's report, Secretary Patterson thanked John Yagecic, Kate Schmidt, and Chad Pindar for their long-term service to the Commission and Meg McGuire for her dedication to reporting on the water resources of the basin.

General Counsel's Report. The Commission's General Counsel, Kenneth Warren, reported on pending litigation related to the Commission's action approving an extension of the docket for the Gibbstown Logistics Center Dock 2 project, which involves construction of a deep-water berth and associated dredging. Mr. Warren noted that in response to a request from the project sponsor, Delaware River Partners, the Commission on September 10, 2025 extended the GLC Dock 2 docket through June 12, 2030. On October 10, 2025, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network and the Delaware Riverkeeper filed an action in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey challenging the extension.

Mr. Warren explained that appeals of administrative agency decisions are ordinarily decided on the administrative record. He added that the parties intended to jointly propose to the District Court a schedule for lodging the administrative record and for submitting briefs on the merits of plaintiffs' claims.

A Resolution for the Minutes authorizing and directing the Executive Director, in consultation with the Estuary states and the EPA, to develop a wasteload allocation study to assist the Estuary states in attaining the dissolved oxygen criteria promulgated by EPA on September 29, 2025 in the tidal Delaware River. DRBC Manager of Water Resource Modeling, Thomas Amidon, explained that a copy of the proposed resolution had been provided to the Commissioners in advance for their review and consideration. He said the resolution would formally acknowledge that a wasteload allocation study would be the essential next step for implementing EPA's new dissolved oxygen criteria.

Mr. Amidon added that the resolution recognized that DRBC and its Model Expert Panel had developed a state-of-the-art estuary model suitable for identifying combinations of effluent levels that will lead to attainment of the new dissolved oxygen criteria in the estuary. The resolution would direct the Executive Director and Commission staff to work closely with the estuary states and the EPA in using the model to prepare a wasteload allocation study consistent with the document entitled *A Strategy to Implement New Dissolved Oxygen Criteria in the Delaware River Estuary*, published by the Commission in October 2025 and available on the DRBC website.

Mr. Amidon noted that the resolution described the overall approach of the wasteload allocation study, namely to apply the DRBCs water quality model to iteratively identify effluent levels that would result in attainment of EPA's new dissolved oxygen criteria.

Mr. Amidon added that the resolution directed the Commission to deliver a wasteload allocation study within 18 months that states could use to derive water quality-based effluent limits. It further directed the Commission to inform and solicit input from its Water Quality Advisory Committee regularly during the course of the study. Mr. Amidon recommended that the Commissioners approve the Resolution for the Minutes as proposed.

Mr. Domber so moved, and Ms. Whitcomb offered a second. Without further discussion, the Resolution for the Minutes authorizing and directing the Executive Director, in consultation with the Estuary states and the EPA, to develop a wasteload allocation study was approved by unanimous vote.

The text of the Resolution follows:

#### RESOLUTION FOR THE MINUTES

A RESOLUTION for the Minutes authorizing and directing the Executive Director, in consultation with the Estuary states and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”), to develop a wasteload allocation (“WLA”) study to assist the Estuary states in attaining the dissolved oxygen (“DO”) criteria\_new dissolved oxygen criteria promulgated by the EPA on September 29, 2025, in the tidal Delaware River.

WHEREAS, on September 13, 2017, the Commission adopted [Resolution No. 2017-4](#), which: (a) recognized that evidence supported further study on the inclusion of propagation as a designated use in Estuary Water Quality Zones 3 and 4 and the upper portion of Zone 5; (b) provided for specific studies to be undertaken in consultation with co-regulators and dischargers; and (c) directed the Executive Director to initiate rulemaking to revise the designated uses for these reaches to include propagation of aquatic life consistent with the results of the identified studies and the objectives and goals of the federal Clean Water Act (“CWA”);

WHEREAS, by a [Resolution for the Minutes dated September 10, 2020](#), the Commission amended the goals established by Resolution No. 2017-4, to provide that the Commission would complete a draft analysis of attainability for aquatic life uses in Zones 3, 4 and upper Zone 5 by September of 2022 and would adopt a final rule to revise the designated uses and supporting water quality criteria by March of 2025;

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2022, a group of non-governmental organizations [petitioned](#) the EPA to revise the designated uses and dissolved oxygen criteria for Zones 3, 4 and upper Zone 5 of the Delaware River on a faster timeline;

WHEREAS, in an [Administrator’s Determination dated December 1, 2022](#), the EPA concluded that a revised designated use to protect aquatic life propagation and corresponding dissolved oxygen protect that use were necessary in the

specified zones to satisfy the requirements of the CWA, and, recognizing the value of the foundational science performed by the Commission, agreed with the petitioners that Section 303(c)(4) of the Clean Water Act required the EPA to revise the Estuary aquatic life water quality standards;

WHEREAS, to promote regulatory clarity and efficiency, by a [Resolution for the Minutes dated September 7, 2023](#), the Commission suspended its directive for DRBC to undertake rulemaking with respect to aquatic life water quality standards in Water Quality Zones 3, 4 and the upper portion of Zone 5, while directing DRBC staff to continue to provide technical support for the EPA-led rulemaking process;

WHEREAS, EPA published its [proposed rule](#), “Water Quality Standards To Protect Aquatic Life in the Delaware River,” on December 21, 2023;

WHEREAS, the DRBC continued to provide scientific, technical and engineering assistance to the EPA to meet the shared goal of updating Estuary water quality standards to improve protections for aquatic life, including by developing the following [final technical reports](#), all published in September of 2024:

- [A Pathway for Continued Restoration: Improving Dissolved Oxygen in the Delaware River Estuary](#) (the “Pathway Report”)
- [Modeling Eutrophication Processes in the Delaware River Estuary: Three-Dimensional Hydrodynamic Model](#)
- [Modeling Eutrophication Processes in the Delaware River Estuary: Three-Dimensional Water Quality Model and Appendices](#)

WHEREAS, while the DRBC performed the study documented in its [Pathway Report](#) to characterize the degree and extent of improved DO levels that would be associated with reducing impactful effluent ammonia nitrogen discharges to specific concentration levels, the study documented in the Pathway Report was not designed to satisfy any particular DO criteria in the Estuary;

WHEREAS, in response to comments received from stakeholders, the DRBC is finalizing significant enhancements to its water quality model such that the latest version of the model simulates nutrient and DO dynamics in the sediment layer and integrates them with related processes in the water column, resulting in a more comprehensive model that reduces uncertainties in future DO predictions;

WHEREAS, the EPA published its final rule, [Water Quality Standards To Protect Aquatic Life in the Delaware River, in the Federal Register](#) on September 29, 2025, promulgating an aquatic life designated use of “Protection and propagation of resident and migratory aquatic life” and corresponding dissolved oxygen criteria;

WHEREAS, to identify specific allocations that will result in attainment of the magnitude, duration and frequency of EPA's new seasonal DO criteria, to incorporate the regulatory requirements and policies of each of the three basin states, and to allow for input from stakeholders, a wasteload allocation study is the essential next step;

WHEREAS, the DRBC staff, in close coordination with the Estuary states of Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, developed [A Strategy to Implement New Dissolved Oxygen Criteria in the Delaware River Estuary](#), published on the DRBC website in October of 2025, outlining an approach that the three Estuary states may use, in reliance on the latest version of the model, to implement the new DO criteria through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") program administered by each state under the CWA;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Delaware River Basin Commission:

1. Finding. Working closely with the EPA and the Estuary states of Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, and guided by a highly credentialed expert panel comprised of leaders in their field, the Commission has developed a three-dimensional hydrodynamic and water quality model (the "eutrophication model") that is a suitable tool for identifying combinations of effluent levels that will lead to attainment of the DO criteria recently promulgated by the EPA to support an aquatic life designated use of protection and propagation of resident and migratory aquatic life in the main stem portions of Zone 3, Zone 4, and upper Zone 5 of the tidal Delaware River (river miles 108.4 to 70.0).
2. Directive. The Executive Director and the DRBC staff are directed to continue working closely with and to support the Estuary states and the EPA by employing the eutrophication model and other scientific, technical, and engineering tools to prepare a WLA study to assist the Estuary states in implementing the new DO criteria consistent with the October 2025 Implementation Strategy, in the manner and with the objectives set forth below.
  - a. Technical method. Commission staff will utilize the most recent and appropriate published version of its eutrophication model to iteratively identify combinations of effluent levels that will lead to attainment of the new DO criteria.
  - b. Stakeholder participation. The Commission will inform and solicit input from its Water Quality Advisory Committee regularly in the course of developing the WLA study.
  - c. Deliverable. A WLA study that the Estuary states in their discretion may utilize to derive valid numerical effluent limitations for inclusion, as

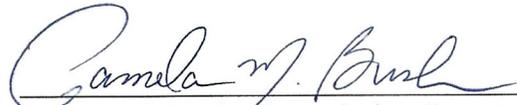
appropriate, in their respective pollutant discharge elimination system permits.

- d. Schedule. The target completion date for the study will be no more than 18 months from today.

Project Review Applications. DRBC's Manager of Project Review, David Kovach, reported that at the Commission's duly noticed public hearing of November 5, 2025, he had presented 26 draft dockets for comment and consideration. Mr. Kovach recommended that item 26 be postponed to allow additional time to review. Noting that the Commission had received no comment opposing any of the other projects, Mr. Kovach asked the Commissioners to approve docket items 1 through 25.

Ms. Whitcomb so moved, Ms. Stainbrook offered a second, and without further discussion, docket agenda items 1 through 25 were approved by unanimous vote.

Adjournment. There being no other business before the Commission, Mr. Domber moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Whitcomb seconded this motion, and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 11:25 a.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela M. Bush, Commission Secretary and  
Assistant General Counsel

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECTS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION DURING THE**  
**BUSINESS MEETING OF DECEMBER 10, 2025**

*Background.* Projects subject to Commission review in accordance with the Delaware River Basin Compact and Commission regulations must have the Commission's approval in the form of a docket, permit, or resolution (collectively, "docket").

The Commission's project review process takes six to nine months to complete, and the public is informed of the status of project applications by a variety of means during that period:

- Each project for which an application is received is added to the "Project Review Status Report" maintained at [https://www.nj.gov/drbc/programs/project/project-review\\_status-pg.html](https://www.nj.gov/drbc/programs/project/project-review_status-pg.html). This report, updated approximately once a month, includes the applicant's name and project location, a description of the proposed project, the docket number assigned to the project, and the name of the staff member reviewing the project.
- A list of applications received is compiled and posted as a "Notice of Applications Received" (NAR) at <https://www.nj.gov/drbc/programs/project/nar.html>, approximately once per month.
- Anyone interested in receiving notices about projects under review as the notices are posted on the Commission's website may sign up for the Commission's "Most Recent Notice of Applications Received" listserv at <https://www.nj.gov/drbc/contact/interest/index.html>.
- Members of the public seeking additional information about a project may contact the staff member reviewing the project or arrange by appointment to review the relevant Project Review file at any time that is mutually convenient for the staff and the party.
- Approximately six weeks before the Commission's scheduled public hearing date, draft dockets are circulated to the Commission's members for review and comment by the appropriate state and federal agencies.
- Ten days prior to the hearing date, the hearing notice, along with draft dockets, is posted on the Commission's website. A public hearing and meeting notice also appears in the Federal Register and certain state registers in accordance with the respective schedules of these publications. The register notice directs readers to the Commission's website for links to the draft dockets available for comment.

Written comment on hearing items is ordinarily accepted until 5 p.m. on the Monday of the week following the public hearing.

At the Commission's regularly scheduled public meetings, the Commissioners may approve, disapprove, or postpone consideration of any docket for which a hearing has been completed. Approved dockets are posted on the Commission's website as quickly as possible following the date on which the Commission acted. Delay of a few days may occur to complete clerical work, particularly in instances in which the Commissioners approve a docket with modifications.

The projects are customarily considered in three categories: Category A—project renewals with no substantive changes; Category B—project renewals with substantive changes; and Category C—projects not previously reviewed by the Commission. Descriptions of the projects (based on the applications received, which may vary from final projects) for which the Commission issued approvals on December 10, 2025 are presented below.

*A. Renewals with No Substantive Changes (Items 1 through 25)*

1. Green Lane - Marlborough Joint Authority, D-1966-002 CP-3. An application to renew the existing 0.20 mgd Green Lane - Marlborough Joint Authority WWTP. The WWTP will continue to discharge treated effluent at a flow of 0.20 mgd to Perkiomen Creek at River Mile 92.47 - 32.3 - 19.5 (Delaware River - Schuylkill River - Perkiomen Creek), via Outfall No. 001, in Green Lane Borough, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.
2. Gulph Mills Country Club, D-1966-217 -3. An application to renew the approval of an existing groundwater and surface water withdrawal of up to 12.28 mgm for irrigation of the applicant's golf course from existing Well 1 and existing Pond 1 which is a man-made impoundment located on the Matsunk Creek. Well 1 is completed in the Conestoga Formation. The requested allocation is not an increase from the previous allocation. The project is located in the Commission's designated Southeastern Pennsylvania Ground Water Protected Area (SEPA GWPA) in the Matsunk Creek Watershed in Upper Merion Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.
3. Lower Frederick Township, D-1978-041 CP-5. An application to renew the approval of the docket holder's existing 0.5 mgd WWTP and its discharge. The existing WWTP will continue to discharge treated effluent to Perkiomen Creek at River Mile 92.47 - 32.3 - 13.4 (Delaware River - Schuylkill River - Perkiomen Creek) via Outfall No. 001, in Lower Frederick Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.
4. Jim Thorpe Borough, D-1981-071 CP-6. An application to renew the approval of an existing withdrawal of up to 10.0 mgm of surface water from an intake on Mauch Chunk Creek and up to 10.0 mgm of groundwater from existing Wells 1 and 4 for public water supply. The wells are completed in the Mauch Chunk Formation and the wells and surface water intake is located in the Mauch Chunk Creek - Lehigh River Watershed in the Borough of Jim Thorpe, Carbon County, Pennsylvania within the drainage area to Lower Special Protection Waters.
5. Blue Ridge Real Estate Company, D-1985-081 -3. An application to renew the approval of the existing 0.40 mgd Jack Frost WWTP and revise the project's existing service area. The WWTP will continue to discharge to Porter Run at River Mile 183.7 - 82.9 - 1.5 (Delaware River - Lehigh River - Porter Run), via Outfall No. 001, within the drainage area of the section of the non-tidal Delaware River known as the Lower Delaware, which the Commission has classified as Special Protection Waters, in Kidder Township, Carbon County, Pennsylvania.

6. Pennsylvania American Water Company, D-1988-089 CP-4. An application to renew approval of the applicant's existing 0.75 mgd Saw Creek WWTP and its discharge. The WWTP will continue to discharge treated effluent to Saw Creek at River Mile 226.9 - 3.6 - 0.9 (Delaware River - Bush Kill - Saw Creek) and is located in Lehman Township, Pike County, Pennsylvania in Middle Delaware Special Protection Waters.
7. Bernville Corporation, D-1992-027 -4. An application to renew the approval of an existing surface water withdrawal of up to 8.3 mgm to irrigate the applicant's Heidelberg Country Club golf course from a surface water intake located on the Tulpehocken Creek. The requested allocation is not an increase from the previous allocation. The surface water intake is located in the Tulpehocken Creek Watershed in Jefferson and North Heidelberg Townships, Berks County, Pennsylvania.
8. Borough of Bally, D-1994-044 CP-5. An application to renew and modify the approval of the existing Borough of Bally WWTP and its discharge including a re-rate of the WWTP from 0.5 mgd to 0.612 mgd with no modifications to the existing treatment facilities. The WWTP will continue to discharge treated effluent to West Branch Perkiomen Creek at River Mile 92.47 - 32.08 - 18.65 - 5.20 - 3.55 (Delaware River - Schuylkill River - Perkiomen Creek - Green Lane Reservoir - West Branch Perkiomen Creek) via Outfalls Nos. 001 and 002, in Washington Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.
9. Meter Services Company, D-1994-049 CP-4. An application to renew the approval of an existing groundwater withdrawal of up to 3.72 mgm to supply the applicant's Village of Buckingham Springs public water supply distribution system from existing Well Nos. 1 and 2. The project wells are completed in Brunswick Formation. The requested allocation is not an increase from the previous allocation. The project is located in the Commission's designated Southeastern Pennsylvania Ground Water Protected Area (SEPA GWPA) in the Mill Creek Watershed in Buckingham Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania.
10. Valley Forge Sewer Authority, D-1995-006 CP-6. An application to renew the approval of the existing 11.75 mgd WWTP and its discharge. The WWTP will continue to discharge treated effluent to the Schuylkill River at River Mile 92.47 - 32.0 (Delaware River - Schuylkill River) via Outfall No. 001, in Schuylkill Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania.
11. Lehigh County Authority, D-1999-011 CP-4. An application to renew the approval for the docket holder's existing 0.06 mgd Heidelberg Heights WWTP and its discharge. The WWTP will continue to discharge treated effluent to an Unnamed Tributary (UNT) to Mill Creek at River Mile 183.7 - 16.0 - 18.8 - 3.3 - (Delaware River - Lehigh River - Jordan Creek - Mill Creek - UNT Mill Creek) via Outfall No. 001, in Heidelberg Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, located within the drainage area to the Lower Delaware River SPW.
12. New Hanover Township Authority, D-1999-040 CP-6. An application to renew the approval of the existing 1.925 mgd New Hanover Township Authority WWTP and its discharge. The WWTP will continue to discharge treated effluent to Swamp Creek at River

Mile 92.5 - 32.3 - 12.9 - 4.8 (Delaware River - Schuylkill River - Perkiomen Creek - Swamp Creek) in New Hanover Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

13. Lower Makefield Township, D-2002-048 CP-4. An application to renew the approval of an existing groundwater withdrawal of up to 7.68 mgm for irrigation of the applicant's Makefield Highlands Golf Club golf course from existing Wells PW-1, PW-2 and PW-3. The project wells are completed in the Brunswick Formation. The requested allocation is not an increase from the previous allocation. The project is located in the Delaware River Watershed in Lower Makefield Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania within the drainage area to section of the main stem Delaware River known as the Lower Delaware, which the Commission has classified as Special Protection Waters.
14. Tinicum Township, D-2014-014 CP-3. An application to renew approval of the applicant's existing 2.8 mgd WWTP and its discharge. The WWTP will continue to discharge treated effluent to the tidal portion of Darby Creek, which is located in Delaware River Water Quality Zone 2, at River Mile 85.4 - 1.8 (Delaware River - Darby Creek) in Tinicum Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania.
15. Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc., D-2015-001 CP-2. An application to approve an existing surface water withdrawal and approve an allocation of up to 511.5 mgm to supply the applicant's public water supply from an existing surface water intake on the Perkiomen Creek at Wetherill Dam. This surface water intake is part of Aqua Pennsylvania's main public water supply system. The project intake is located in the Perkiomen Creek Watershed in Lower Providence Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.
16. Brookmont Health Care Center, D-2018-004 -2. An application to approve the existing 0.040 mgd Brookmont Health Care Center WWTP and its discharge. The WWTP will continue to discharge treated effluent to the Pohopoco Creek at River Mile 183.7 - 40.9 - 6.3 - 6.5 - 9.2 (Delaware River - Lehigh River - Pohopoco Creek - Beltzville Reservoir - Pohopoco Creek), via Outfall No. 001, within the drainage area of the section of the non-tidal Delaware River known as the Lower Delaware, which the Commission has classified as Special Protection Waters, in Chestnuthill Township, Monroe County, Pennsylvania.
17. FedChem, LLC, D-1971-064 -2. An application to approve an existing groundwater withdrawal of up to 19.28 mgm (0.622 mgd) from Well W-001 and the resulting discharge of non-contact cooling water. The withdrawal and discharge rates approved by this docket are increases from the amounts of 0.507 mgd (15.72 mgm) described in the previous docket. Non-contact cooling water will continue to be discharged to Monocacy Creek at River Mile 183.7 - 11.5 - 10.5 (Delaware River - Lehigh River - Monocacy Creek). The well, completed in the Epler Formation, and project discharge are located in the Monocacy Creek Watershed in Lower Nazareth Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania within the drainage area to Lower Special Protection Waters.
18. Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc., D-1981-061 CP-6. An application to renew the approval of an existing groundwater withdrawal of up to 20.5 mgm to supply the applicant's Fawn Lake, Masthope and Woodloch public water supply distribution systems from existing Wells FL-

2, FL-3(r), FL-4, FL-5, WL-5, WL-6, WL-10 and new Wells MH-5R and MH-7. Wells MH-5 and MH-4 will be removed from the docket with this approval and will be replaced by Wells MH-5R and MH-7, respectively. The applicant received an emergency approval for the project pursuant to Section 401.40(b) of the Commission's Administrative Manual - Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR Part 401 on July 11, 2025. The project wells are completed in the Upper Devonian Catskill Formation in the Westcolang Creek, West Falls Creek, and Teedyuskung Creek Watersheds in Lackawaxen Township, Pike County, Pennsylvania within the drainage area of the section of the main stem Delaware River known as the Upper Delaware, which is classified as Special Protection Waters.

19. Eagle Lake Community Association, Inc., D-1987-055 CP-5. An application to approve modifications to the existing 0.5 mgd Eagle Lake Community WWTP and its discharge. The modifications will include a new triplex train Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) biological removal process with decant equalization. In addition, influent screening ahead of the flow equalization and influent and effluent flow metering are proposed. The WWTP will continue to discharge treated effluent to an unnamed tributary (UNT) to Tamarack Creek at River Mile 183.7 – 106.6 – 2.9 – 0.3 (Delaware River - Lehigh River - Tamarack Creek - UNT Tamarack Creek), via Outfall No. 001, located within the drainage area to the Lower Delaware, which is classified as Special Protection Waters, in Covington Township, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania.
20. Pennsylvania American Water Company, D-1990-027 CP-3. An application to renew the approval of an existing surface water withdrawal with a increase in allocation from 6.6 mgd (295.43 mgm) to 9.53 mgd (295.43 mgm) to supply the applicant's Royersford District public water supply distribution system from an existing surface water intake on the Schuylkill River. The applicant is also constructing the Lock 57 water treatment plant (WTP) and a new intake at the facility to replace their Shady Lane WTP and intake at that location. Plans are to have the Lock 57 WTP in operation in 2027. The surface water intake is located in East Vincent Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania.
21. Maidencreek Township Authority, D-1991-058 CP-7. An application to approve an increase of an existing groundwater allocation of 23.46 million gallons per month (mgm) to 68.10 mgm from wells 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7 for public water supply. The increase in allocation will allow the docket holder to provide up to 1,000 gpm (44.64 mgm of water to Muhlenberg Township Authority through a proposed interconnection. The docket holder's wells are completed in the Allentown, Epler and Ontelaunee Formations in the Lower Maiden Creek and Willow Creek Watersheds in Maidencreek Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.
22. Town of Fallsburg, D-1994-059 CP-3. An application to include the proposed increase from 3.3 mgd to 4.5 mgd at the Town of Fallsburg (WHO) WWTP in the Delaware River Basin Commission's Comprehensive Plan. The plant will continue to serve the Fallsburg Sewer District in South Fallsburg Township, Sullivan County, New York. Section 3.8 Review of the project will be conducted in accordance with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and DRBC 2016 Administrative Agreement

(AA). Treated effluent will continue to be discharged to the Neversink River, at River Mile 253.64 – 31.8 (Delaware River – Neversink River) in Water Quality Zone 1C.

23. Port Jervis City, D-2013-019 CP-2. An application to renew the approval an existing surface water supply and approve an increase in allocation from 51.5 mgm to 73.78 mgm of surface water from an existing intake on Reservoir 1 for public water supply. The allocation is due to ongoing expressed interest from residential and commercial developers who wish to bring additional business to the City which will increase the overall water demand. Reservoir 1 is supplemented when necessary with water from two additional interconnected reservoirs (Reservoirs 2 and 3). The applicant also owns and maintains a surface water intake on the Neversink River and additional water storage in Boehmler Pond for emergency backup purposes. The reservoirs and surface water withdrawal are located in the Shingle Kill-Delaware River and Lower Neversink River watersheds in the Town of Deer Park, Orange County, New York, within the drainage area to Middle Special Protection Waters.
24. Wheelabrator Falls Company, LP, D-2019-003 -2. An application to renew the approval of the docket holder’s existing 53-megawatt waste-to energy facility consumptive use of up to 27.90 million gallons per month of surface water provided by the Township of Falls Authority interconnection with Morrisville Municipal Authority. The consumptive use allocation provided by this docket is an increase in the long-term consumptive use allocation approved by the previous docket because of the elimination of a cooling tower water conservation project. The facility is located in Falls Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania.
25. Birdsboro Municipal Authority, D-2012-020 CP-1. An application to approve an existing surface water withdrawal project to supply up to a combined 22.5 million gallons per month (mgm) of water from existing intakes located on Indian Run and Hay Creek and up to 3.1 mgm of water from an existing intake in Dyer Quarry for purpose of public water supply. The project is located in the Hay Creek Watershed in Birdsboro Borough and Robeson Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

*B. Renewals with Substantive Changes*

None.

*C. Projects Not Previously Reviewed By The Commission*

None.