

A RESOLUTION to continue the Water Quality Advisory Committee.

WHEREAS, Section 3.10 of the Delaware River Compact provides that the Commission “may constitute and empower advisory committees, which may be comprised of representatives of the public and of federal, state, county and municipal governments, water resources agencies, water-using industries, and water-interest groups”; and

WHEREAS, the Commission’s advisory committees are important forums for information-sharing, dialogue, and coordination among stakeholders and member state agencies, and as generators of recommendations for the Commission’s consideration; and

WHEREAS, in developing policy on matters relating to water quality and pollution prevention, control and abatement, the WQAC has provided valuable input and recommendations since its initial authorization in 1965, and the Commission has a continuing need for the advice of individuals and organizations within the Basin that have applicable experience and expertise and an interest in the Commission’s actions; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delaware River Basin Commission:

1. The Water Quality Advisory Committee (“WQAC” or “Committee”) is hereby continued for a period of 10 years commencing on January 1, 2027. It shall terminate on January 1, 2037, unless renewed or extended prior thereto.
2. In accordance with Resolution No. 2008-11, the Committee shall consist of eleven (11) members who possess relevant experience, comprised of six (6) “reserved” members and five “non-reserved” members.
 - a. Five (5) of the “reserved” members shall be appointed by the Commissioners, with each state Commissioner naming one member from the agency charged with primary responsibility for water pollution prevention and control within their state, and the federal Commissioner naming one member from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”). The sixth reserved member shall be appointed by the Regional Director of the National Park Service (“NPS”) from the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Program within the Delaware River Basin.
 - b. The five “non-reserved” members shall be appointed by the Executive Director to represent, respectively, each of the following stakeholder categories for terms of up to five (5) years.
 - i. wastewater utility (1)
 - ii. academic or research institution (1)
 - iii. business or industry (1)

- iv. watershed or environmental organization (2)
 - c. The Executive Director shall make appointments of "non-reserved" members based on review of the nominees' qualifications in accordance with the Commission's procedure established by Resolution for the Minutes on March 16, 2016.
 - d. Each member of the Committee may appoint an alternate to participate and vote in their absence. Alternates appointed by "non-reserved" members must be approved by the Executive Director. Members must inform the Committee chair when their alternate will be participating on their behalf.
3. The purpose of the Committee is twofold.
- a. The primary work of the Committee is to review ongoing work of the Commission and provide feedback and recommendations to the Commission on matters relating to water quality and pollution prevention, control and abatement.
 - b. The Committee may develop recommendations for consideration by the Commission with respect to policy and technical matters of water quality and pollution prevention, control and abatement within the Basin. Committee recommendations shall be prepared by staff and Committee members as appropriate and transmitted to the Commissioners through the Executive Director. No recommendation shall be made by the Committee unless a majority of the members (at least six) vote in favor thereof. Dissenting members shall have the option of preparing and filing a minority report for consideration by the Commission.
4. A chair, or in the chair's absence, a vice chair, will preside at Committee meetings. The offices of chair and vice chair will rotate annually among the members. Each year, the serving vice chair will succeed to the office of chair, and the next member in the following order will assume the office of vice chair: Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control ("DNREC"), academic/research representative, EPA, watershed/environmental representative #1, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ("NJDEP"), business/industry representative, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ("NYSDEC"), watershed/environmental representative #2, NPS, wastewater utility representative, and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("PADEP").
5. The WQAC shall be authorized to establish subcommittees or workgroups to address specific issues or needs requiring specialized expertise. Such subcommittees or workgroups shall be comprised of persons who have the necessary expertise and may or may not be members of the WQAC.

6. A DRBC staff member will be appointed by the Executive Director to serve as the Committee liaison. The liaison will assist the chair and vice chair with their duties as needed by, for example, developing and distributing agendas, scheduling meetings, preparing meeting minutes, and performing other administrative functions.
7. Committee members shall utilize the technical resources at their disposal to assist the Committee and shall coordinate with other agencies and Commission advisory committees, as appropriate.
8. The WQAC and any subcommittees or workgroups shall be mindful of existing Commission regulations and, to the extent not inconsistent with the foregoing, shall follow the procedures set forth in the Resolution for the Minutes of March 16, 2016.
9. This Resolution shall take effect on January 1, 2027.



Chair



Commission Secretary

Adopted: September 2, 2026