

RESOLUTION FOR THE MINUTES

A Resolution for the Minutes authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement for professional services to assist DRBC staff in completing Phase 2 of the Water Resources Resilience Plan.

WHEREAS, the Delaware River Basin Compact (“Compact”) provides for the Commission to manage, protect, and improve the water resources of the Delaware River Basin (“Basin”) without regard for political boundaries, including by defining and advancing programs for the optimum planning, development, conservation, utilization, management, and control of the Basin’s water resources to meet present and future needs; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2024-04 on June 5, 2024, the Commissioners unanimously adopted the finding that “[c]limate change has caused and will continue to produce impacts on the water cycle, including on water availability; water quality; the management and uses of Basin water for economic, recreational, ecosystem sustainability, and other purposes; and the functionality and resilience of water infrastructure and other vital projects and activities within the Delaware River Basin”; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2024-04 directed DRBC staff to “develop a plan of prioritized DRBC actions for evaluating the impacts of climate change on water resources of the Basin and formulating management approaches, including recommended policies and rules, for improving resilience and adaptation to a changing climate”; and

WHEREAS, DRBC staff, in consultation with the Commissioners, advisory committees, and other stakeholders, subsequently developed a Water Resources Resilience Plan (“WRRP” or “Plan”) to be completed in three distinct phases—an initial phase (“Phase 1”) to develop a framework for the Plan; a second phase (“Phase 2”) to evaluate the impacts of climate change on the Basin’s water resources and to develop a plan of prioritized DRBC actions to address these challenges; and a third phase (“Phase 3”) to examine and address additional challenges to the Basin’s water resources that are not driven by climate change; and

WHEREAS, in March 2026, DRBC staff will complete Phase 1 and release a report entitled *A Framework for the Delaware River Basin Commission’s Water Resources Resilience Plan*, defining the Basin’s water resource assets and identifying the climate change hazards, planning horizons, future scenarios and prioritization metrics that will form the foundation of the work to be performed in Phases 2 and 3; and

WHEREAS, DRBC staff has started to plan for and assess the work required to complete Phase 2, the objective of which is to develop a list of prioritized actions and activities that DRBC could undertake to advance resilience of the Basin’s water resources to climate change; and

WHEREAS, Phase 2 is expected to proceed in three steps:

(1) a vulnerability assessment to characterize the impacts that each water resource asset is expected to experience due to the specific hazard(s) identified in Phase 1;

(2) a gap analysis to identify potential actions and activities that DRBC and others are not yet undertaking to address the impacts identified in the vulnerability assessment; and

(3) a prioritization of the potential actions and activities identified in the gap analysis that are scored according to a set of metrics; and

WHEREAS, in light of the scope of work that will be required to complete Phase 2, the Commission's interests would be well-served by engaging the services of a consultant to assist DRBC staff in efficiently completing this next phase of the WRRP; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delaware River Basin Commission:

1. The Executive Director is hereby authorized to develop and issue a request for proposal ("RFP") for consulting services in accordance with the procedure set forth in section 4.4 B. of the *Administrative Manual – Bylaws, Management and Personnel* to complete the Phase 2 analysis described above.

2. The Executive Director is further authorized to enter into an agreement with the most qualified bidder to work with DRBC staff to complete Phase 2 of the WRRP. The work to be performed shall begin as soon as practicable upon execution of the agreement and shall end upon the completion of Phase 2, which is expected to occur in FY 2028.

3. This Resolution for the Minutes shall take effect immediately.

ADOPTED: March 4, 2026