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Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: Large Customer Reporting

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*Water Management Advisory
Committee (WMAC)*



Presentation Outline

1. What is being proposed?
2. Why is DRBC proposing this rule?
3. Frequently Asked Questions
4. How to comment
5. Schedule

QR code for DRBC
webpage with detailed
information.



https://www.nj.gov/drbc/meetings/proposed/notice_water-reporting.html

1. What is being proposed?

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN WATER CODE

WITH AMENDMENTS THROUGH
DECEMBER 7, 2022

18 CFR PART 410



DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
P.O. Box 7360, West Trenton, New Jersey 08628
(609) 883-9500 • www.drbc.gov

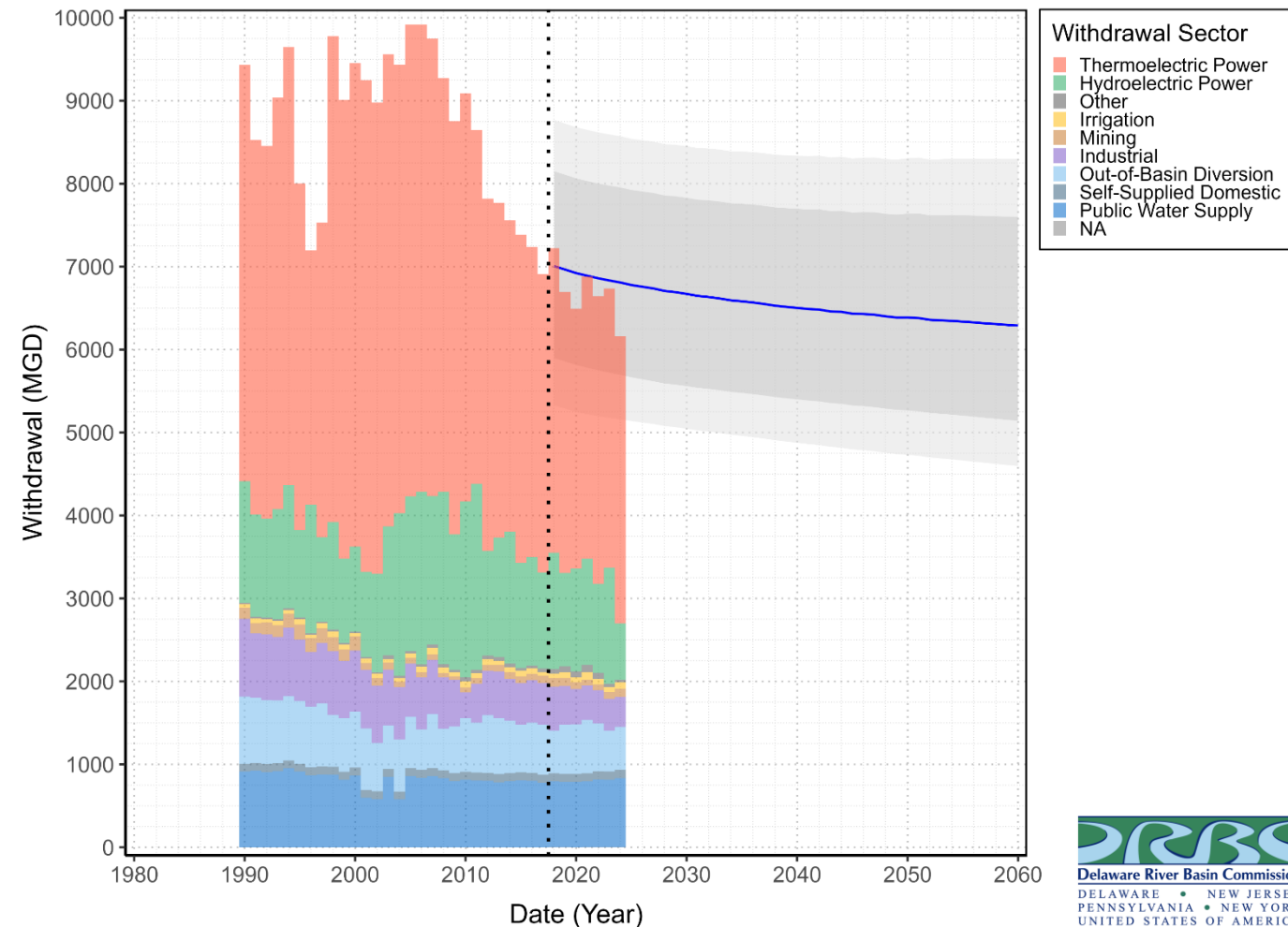
Amend Section 2.50 of the DRBC Water Code to include a requirement that purveyors report water use data for large customers.

Large customer is one supplied with 50,000 gallons per day ("gpd") or more as an average over any 30-day period through one or more proximate connections.



1. What is being proposed ? (con't)

Historical and projected water withdrawals from the Delaware River Basin



Section 2.50 of the Water Code

- Enabling rules that provide DRBC/states with water use information critical for water resource planning.
 - established in 1986
 - major modifications in 2001 and 2009
 - water use data reported to states
 - DRBC & states have data exchanges
 - water audits reported to DRBC
- Important for DRBC 2060 water supply planning.

1. What is being proposed? (con't)

Existing Water Code

- 2.50 Water Metering
 - 2.50.1 Service Metering
 - 2.50.2 Source metering, recording and reporting
 - 2.50.3 Reporting Requirements
 - A. Annual Reporting Requirements
 - 1. Water Supply Systems Serving the Public
 - a. Source Data
 - b. Service Area Data

Proposed Water Code

- 2.50 Water Metering
 - 2.50.**1 Definitions**
 - 2.50.**2** Service Metering
 - 2.50.**3** Source metering, recording and reporting
 - 2.50.**4** Reporting Requirements
 - A. Annual Reporting Requirements
 - 1. Water Supply Systems Serving the Public
 - a. Source Data
 - b. Service Area Data
 - c. Large Customer Service Data**

1. What is being proposed? (con't)

2.50.4.A.c

Large Customer Service Data. Commencing with data for calendar year 2026, the following shall be reported separately for each “large customer” as defined at Section 2.50.1, on a **form prescribed by the Executive Director:**

- Year
- DRBC Docket Number
- State Permit Number or Facility ID
- Customer Facility ID
- Customer Facility Name
- Amount supplied **monthly** for each of 12 months (MG)
- Customer type/sector
- NAICS code

Slide on this item.

1. What is being proposed? (con't)

2.50.1 Definitions

A. Large Customer

> = 50,000 gpd over 30 day average
(provisions for quarterly meter reading);
proximate connections

B. Large Customer Service Data

annual report information: monthly water
sales data (provisions for quarterly meter
reading for 2026); customer type; NAICs, etc.

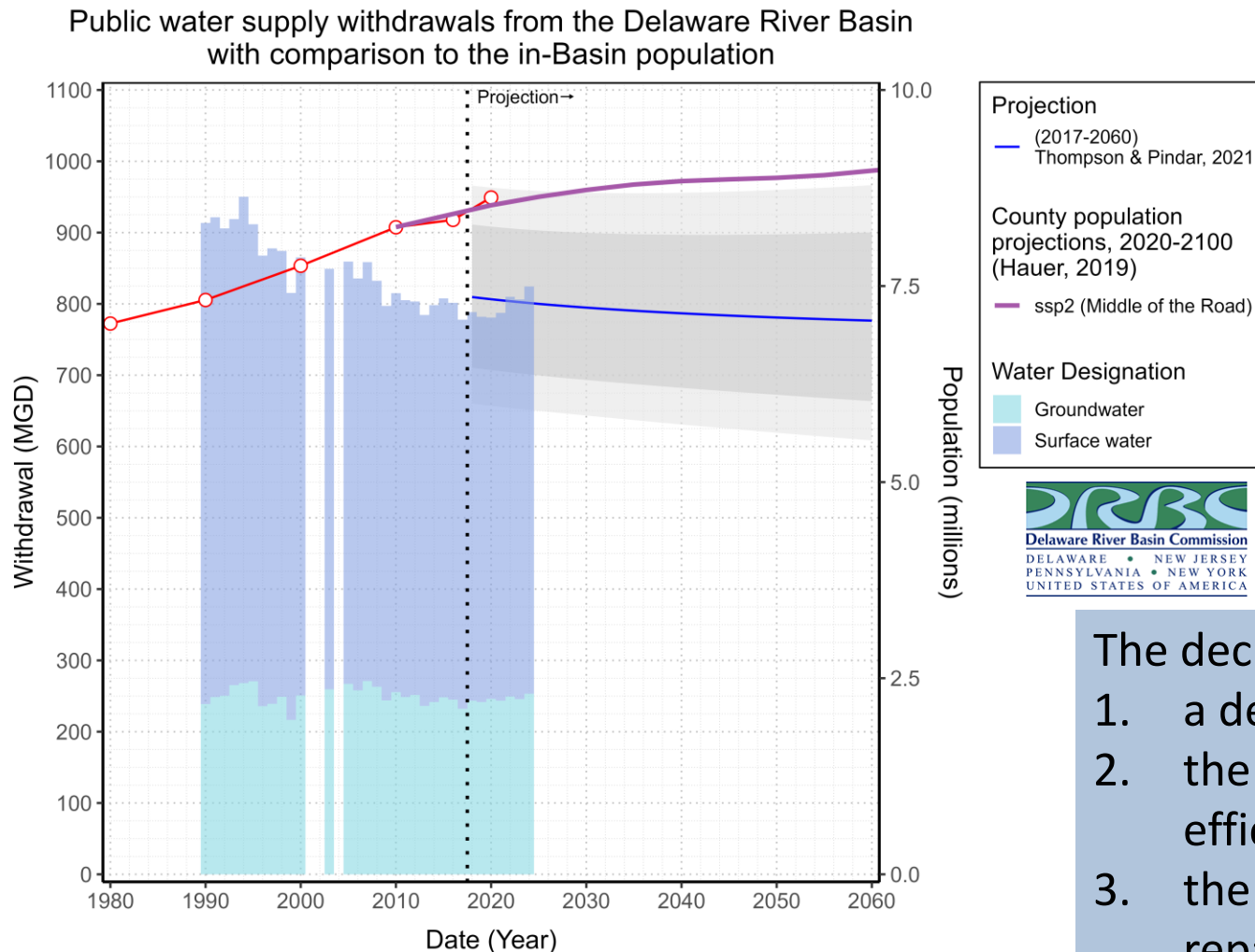
C. Proximate connections

service connections that may be metered
separately but serve a single customer at
single location, facility, or campus

D. Water Supply System Serving the Public or
Purveyor

any water utility (public or private) that
delivers water to customers; establish
consistency of terms that have been used
interchangeably in Water Code

2. Why is DRBC proposing this rule? (FAQ #7)

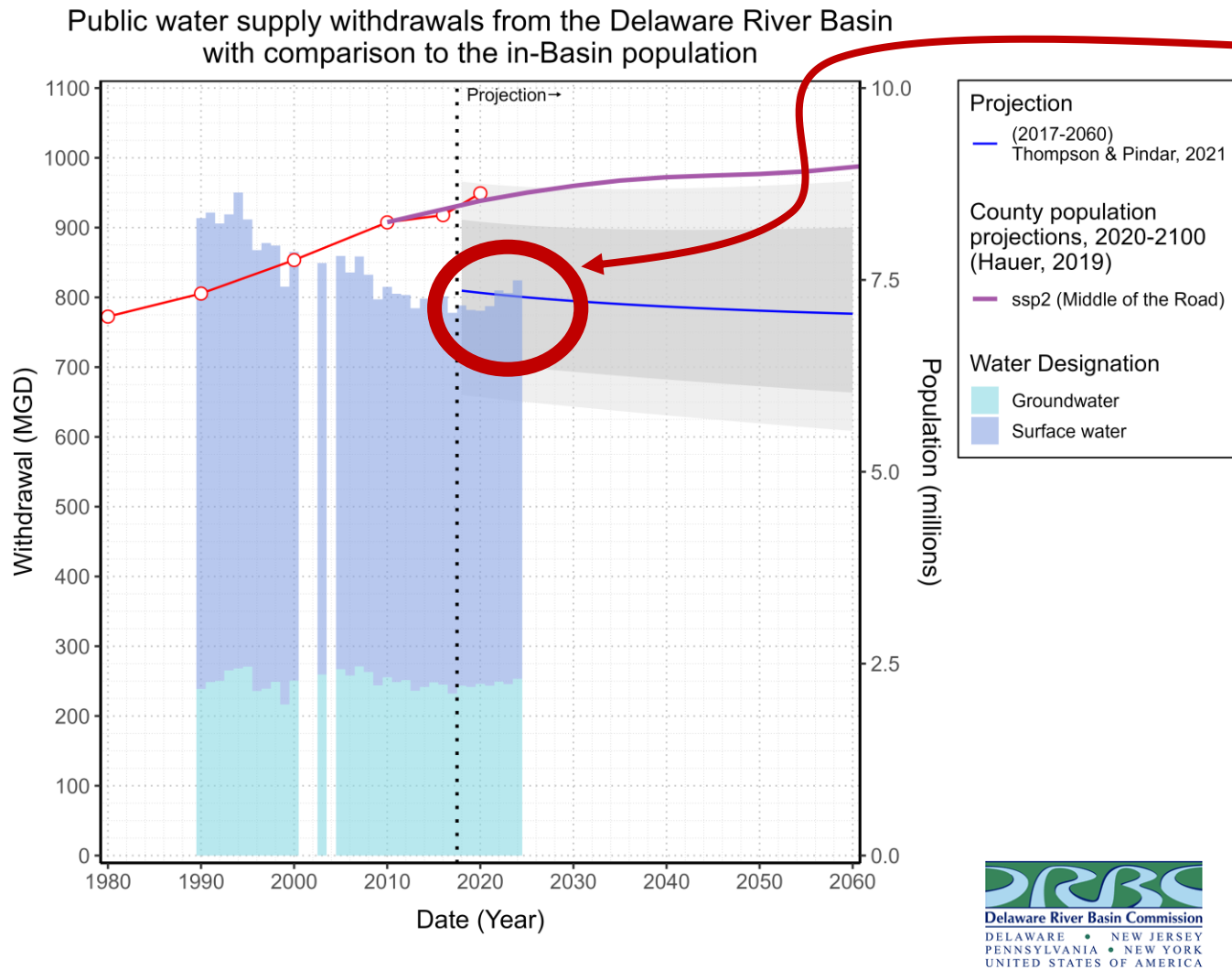


From approximately 1990 to the year 2020, usage by water supply systems serving the public declined in the Delaware Basin, despite an increase in population.

The declining trend was attributed to:

1. a decline in large industrial customers
2. the adoption of plumbing codes requiring water-efficient plumbing fixtures, fittings and appliances
3. the regular implementation of leak detection and repair programs

2. Why is DRBC proposing this rule? (FAQ #7)



Notable observation: Starting in 2021 we have seen a multi-year increase in withdrawals from PWS sector. First time in decades.

- The reasons for this reversal are not known.
- Unclear which type of customer of PWS is driving this shift.
- Unclear whether the increases are comprised of water that is used consumptively (i.e., not returned to waters of the Basin) or non-consumptively (i.e., discharged to waters of the Basin after it is used).

2. Why is DRBC proposing this rule? (FAQ #7)

To ensure that uses of the Basin's water resources remain sustainable, it is important that the Commission monitor and understand trends in water use, including by gaining a better understanding of how water delivered by public water supply systems is used.

Collecting additional information about large customer water use is a way to better understand recent trends without imposing a substantial burden on either purveyors or end users.

3. Frequently Asked Questions

- DRBC staff developed a FAQ (currently 26 questions & answers)

https://www.nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/FAQ_WaterReportingRule_100626.pdf

5. How will purveyors report large customer water use to the Commission?

... in a manner prescribed by the Executive Director.

- Data entry form in Microsoft Excel
- Email submittal to a dedicated email address
- Similar to how DRBC currently receives ~300 water audits annually

QR code for FAQs.



3. Frequently Asked Questions (con't)

6. How many purveyors are expected to be impacted by this rule?

Approximately 300 water supply systems serving the public will be subject to the new rule.

However, the Commission anticipates that only a subset of these have customers that purchase 50,000 gallons or more per day as a 30-day average (or initially, if the 30-day average is not available, as a quarterly average).

The exact number of systems with customers of this size is not yet known.

Total	~299
PA	159
NJ	94
DE	27
NY	19



3. Frequently Asked Questions (con't)

21. Which sectors will the Commission expect purveyors to choose from when identifying their large customers?

Dropdown menu in reporting form.

DRBC would appreciate feedback on this list.

1. Residential (Single-Family)
2. Residential (Multi-Family)
3. Mobile Home Park
4. Correctional Facility
5. School/Education
6. Hospital/Health
7. Recreation
8. Military
9. Golf Course
10. Garden Supply/Nursery
11. Other Food/Beverage Industry
12. Irrigation— Other
13. Bottled Water
14. Data Center
15. Commercial
16. Manufacturing
17. Refinery
18. Industrial
19. Power Generation
20. Other



Where can I find more information?

https://www.nj.gov/drbc/meetings/proposed/notice_water-reporting.html



A screenshot of a web browser displaying the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: nj.gov/drbc/meetings/proposed/notice_water-reporting.html#ph. The website header includes the DRBC logo, a search bar, and a language selector set to English. The navigation menu features links for About DRBC, Basin Information, Programs, Meetings, News/Public Information, and Contact DRBC. Below the navigation menu, there are links for Upcoming Commission Meetings, Commission Meeting Archives, Advisory Committee Meetings, Proposed Rulemaking Public Hearing Notices, and Other Meetings, Workshops, and Conferences. The main content area displays the title "Notice of Proposed Rulemaking & Public Hearing: Proposed Amendments to DRBC's Water Code" and a list of links: Proposal: Key Information, Public Hearing: Wednesday, November 4, 2026, 1:30 P.M., Written Comment Deadline: Friday, December 4, 2026, 5 P.M., Supporting Documentation and Translation, Background, and Contacts for Information. A section titled "Proposal: Key Information" contains a paragraph stating that DRBC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Public Hearing regarding proposed amendments to its Water Code and Comprehensive Plan to require water supply systems serving the public (purveyors) to report water use by their largest customers. It also specifies that DRBC is proposing to amend Section 2.50 of its current Water Code to include a requirement that purveyors report certain data for customers to which, during the previous calendar year, the system supplied 50,000 gallons per day ("gpd") or more as an average over any 30-day period through one or more proximate connections. A link is provided for "See Background for additional details." At the bottom, there are two bullet points: "Public Hearing: November 4, 2026, 1:30 p.m." with a link to "Learn more about the public hearing", and "Written Comment Deadline: December 4, 2026, 5 p.m." The DRBC logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the website.

4. How do interested parties provide comments?

- Virtually: 4th Quarter DRBC Public Hearing – Wednesday November 4, 2026, 1:30 p.m.
 - Register for Zoom Webinar to provide oral testimony
 - Registration closes 5 pm November 3, 2026
 - Watch via DRBC's YouTube channel: <http://www.youtube.com/user/delrivbasincomm/>
- Written Comments: Deadline is Friday December 4, 2026, 5 p.m.
 - Via Smartcomment - <https://hearing.drbc.commentinput.com?id=T95htQGAg>

Comments received through any method other than the designated on-line method, including via email, fax, postal/delivery services or hand delivery, will not be considered or included in the rulemaking record unless accompanied by a written request for an exception based on lack of access to the web-based comment system. Such requests and accompanying materials may be sent to: Commission Secretary, DRBC, P.O. Box 7360, West Trenton, NJ 08628.



5. Anticipated Schedule

10/06/2026 - Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published

- DRBC website, DRBC emails to purveyors, state and federal registers

10/14/2026 – Water Management Advisory Committee

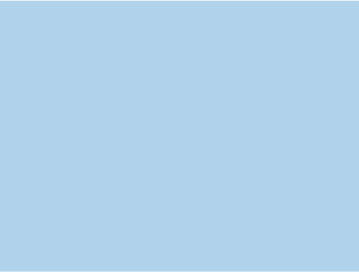
11/04/2026 – Public Hearing (virtual)

12/04/2026 – Deadline for comments

Commissioner consideration in 2027



Thank you for your interest.



If time allows...WMAC Discussion

- DRBC cannot answer specific questions.
- Any responses will not be part of the official record or comment and response document.
- Highly encourage interested parties to provide comments as instructed in NPRM.