

RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR THE DRBC PUBLIC HEARING ON THE

PROPOSED XTO WATER WITHDRAWAL DOCKET

June 1, 2011 Deposit High School; Deposit, NY

The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) is extremely grateful to the Deposit Central School District for use of their facilities. All hearing participants are asked to show the utmost courtesy to our host by adhering to their rules when on their property.

1. School officials have made significant accommodations to ensure that the auditorium is available for the DRBC hearing. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in ensuring an orderly assembly that does not disrupt school activities.
2. Rallies, demonstrations, and protests are not permitted on Deposit Central School District property.
3. NO BULL HORNS or other voice amplifiers may be used on school grounds.
4. NO SMOKING. Smoking is not allowed in school buildings or on school grounds.
5. No food or drink is permitted in the school auditorium.
6. The school is unable to accommodate any requests for additional rooms or other reserved space for hearing attendees.
7. Please follow all parking rules. Fire and no-parking zones will be strictly enforced.

COMMENTER SIGN-IN AND HEARING PROCEDURE

1. Doors open at 3:30 p.m. for the both the informal presentation on the draft docket (by DRBC staff)/Question & Answer Session (3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.) and the 4:45 p.m. Public Hearing session.
2. There is no need to register to ask a question during the informal Question and Answer Session.
3. Opportunity to speak during the **Public Hearing** is on a **first come, first served** basis. If you want to speak, please plan on being in an orderly line when the doors open at 3:30 p.m. for speaker registration.
4. Once the doors open for registration, those in the speakers' line will file in and be handed a pre-numbered comment card. The cards may start at a number higher than #1, as elected government officials are given the opportunity to speak first if they have registered in advance with DRBC.
5. Commenters will be asked to fill out the comment card legibly; they will be called BY NUMBER to speak. Please do NOT separate the parts of the comment card – keep as one piece.
6. Written comments will also be accepted. Please be sure to include the name, address, and affiliation (if any) of the commenter. Written comments will be collected at two locations: at the reception table in the lobby or by the staff member in the front of the auditorium assisting commenters.
7. The hearing will open with brief remarks from the hearing officer.
8. NUMBERS for commenters will then be called 10 at a time by the hearing officer; a DRBC staffer will be located at the front of the auditorium to assist commenters. Commenters will line up by number in the front of the auditorium (near the microphone) and hand DRBC staff their completed comment cards. There will be designated seats near the microphone for those who need to sit while waiting their turn at the microphone. A staff member will call or motion each commenter to the microphone in turn. Once each has spoken, he or she may return to his or her seat in the audience. When a few

commenters remain in the current group of 10, the hearing officer will call the next group of 10 to be “on deck.”

9. Commenters will have 2 minutes each. Time will be strictly observed by the hearing officer or a staff member. Commenters will be alerted when their time begins, when they have 10 seconds left, and when their time ends.
10. We will try to accommodate as many speakers as possible. The smoother and more efficient we all make the process, the more commenters will be able to provide testimony in the allotted time. **It is estimated that approximately 120 persons will have the opportunity to present oral testimony within the allotted time period for the hearing session.**
11. The hearing will end promptly at 9 p.m. All attendees will be required to leave at the end of the session.

RESTRICTIONS

1. Commenters may speak once during the hearing session.
2. Commenters may not cede any portion of their time to another commenter.
3. No testimony will be allowed via cell phone, video or audio recording from a remote location. Commenters must be present in person to provide oral testimony.
4. Commenters may not heckle the hearing officer or anyone in attendance. Commenters are not permitted to use vulgar/abusive language or exhibit threatening behavior. Anyone who does so will be required to leave the hall.
5. Comments will be recorded by a court reporter. Please speak clearly.
6. Once a commenter’s time has ended, the commenter must stop speaking and leave the microphone area.

AUDIENCE RULES

1. The 580 person capacity of the hearing rooms is fixed, and occupancy limits will be strictly enforced. All individuals in the hearing room must have a seat. While attendees may come and go quietly as they please, we cannot allow standing in aisles or sharing of seats.
2. Please remain quiet during testimony so that the court reporter can produce an accurate record. Anyone who interrupts another’s testimony with loud objections, demonstrations or other disruptions will be required to leave the hall.
3. Light applause will be permitted as long as it stops as soon as the next speaker approaches the microphone.

These rules are intended to help sustain the flow of the hearing, to allow as many people as possible to be heard, and to ensure that an accurate record of all comments is obtained. We appreciate everyone’s cooperation and thank you for your participation in the rulemaking process.