

RESOLUTION 2013-
NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL
APPROVAL OF AGRITOURISM/ECOTOURISM/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
GRANT TO SUSSEX COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act) has created a public body corporate and politic with corporate succession known as the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council); and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Act authorizes the Highlands Council to enter into any and all agreements or contracts, execute any and all instruments to carry out any power, duty or responsibility under the Highlands Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 18 of the Highlands Act authorizes the Highlands Council to make available grants and other financial and technical assistance to municipalities and counties in furtherance of the Regional Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2006, the Highlands Council by Resolution 2006-19 authorized the initiation of a grant application process for Sustainable Agriculture grants to municipalities and counties within the Highlands Region in furtherance of Highlands Act goal of promoting and sustaining the Region's agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Sussex County seeks an Agritourism/Ecotourism/Economic Development grant to produce an analysis of the regional economy focusing on agriculture and ecotourism, utilizing Sussex County's experience with prior Highlands Council Sustainable Agriculture grants, which will enable Sussex County to develop a marketing strategy and an interactive website for Sussex County with companion brochures which can then be used as a template for all Highlands Region counties; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council staff has reviewed Sussex County's grant application and recommends approval by the Highlands Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Highlands Council that the Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized to enter into a grant agreement with Sussex County for the award of an Agritourism/Ecotourism/Economic Development Grant in an amount not to exceed \$200,000, provided that the Executive Director may authorize additional amounts under this agreement pursuant to his authority under the Highlands Council Bylaws.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Highlands Council at its regular meeting held on the 18th day of July, 2013.

Jim Rilee, Chairman

