(a)

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

Notice of Readoption

Negotiations, Impasse Procedures, and Compulsory Interest Arbitration of Labor Disputes in Public Fire and Police Departments

Readoption: N.J.A.C. 19:16

Authority: N.J.S.A. 34:13A-5.4.e, 34:13A-6.b, 34:13A-11, and 34:13A-16.5.

Authorized By: Public Employment Relations Commission, Mary E. Hennessy-Shotter, Chair.

Effective Date: May 29, 2026.

New Expiration Date: May 29, 2033.

Take notice that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1, the rules at N.J.A.C. 19:16 were scheduled to expire on July 29, 2026. The rules at N.J.A.C. 19:16 provide for implementation of P.L. 2010, c. 105, and P.L. 2014, c. 11, which amended and supplemented P.L. 1977, c. 85, and P.L. 1995, c. 425, and subsequent amendments at: P.L. 2016, c. 4, § 6; P.L. 2019, c. 407, § 16; P.L. 2021, c. 124, § 5; and P.L. 2021, c. 369, § 2. The statutes are collectively known as the "Police and Fire Public Interest Arbitration Reform Act." These laws provide for compulsory interest arbitration to resolve collective negotiations impasses in public fire and police departments and supplement the New Jersey Employer-Employee Relations Act, as amended, N.J.S.A. 34:13A-1 et seq.

The rules describe: procedures for initiating interest arbitration; the required content of petitions and responses; filing fees; appointment of arbitrators; hearing procedures; the required content of an arbitration award; and procedures for appealing awards to the Public Employment Relations Commission (Commission). The rules also include guidelines to be used by the parties and arbitrators in applying the statutory comparability criterion, N.J.S.A. 34:13A-16.g(2); standards for appointment and reappointment to the special panel of interest arbitrators; and procedures for suspending, disciplining, or removing arbitrators from the special panel during an arbitrator's three-year term.

The Commission has determined that the chapter remains necessary, proper, reasonable, efficient, understandable, and responsive to the purposes for which it was first promulgated and should be readopted. Therefore, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1.c(1), N.J.A.C. 19:16 is readopted and shall continue in effect for a seven-year period.

(b)

NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK

Infrastructure Trust Procedures and Requirements

Readoption with Recodifications and Amendments: N.J.A.C. 7:22-4 as 19:50-4

Adopted Repeals: N.J.A.C. 7:22-4.9 and 4.47

Adopted New Rule: N.J.A.C. 19:50-4.9

Proposed: January 20, 2026, at 58 N.J.R. 213(a).

Adopted: May 14, 2026, by Robert A. Briant, Jr., Chairperson, New Jersey Infrastructure Bank, and Ed Potosnak, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Filed: June 2, 2026, as R.2026 d.079, with **non-substantial changes** not requiring additional public notice and comment (see N.J.A.C. 1:30-6.3).

Authority: New Jersey Infrastructure Trust Act, N.J.S.A. 58:11B-1 et seq.; the Wastewater Treatment Bond Act of 1985 (P.L. 1985, c. 329); the Stormwater Management and Combined Sewer Overflow Abatement Bond Act of 1989 (P.L. 1989, c. 181); the Green Acres, Clean Water, Farmland and Historic Preservation Bond Act of 1992 (P.L. 1992, c. 88); the Dam, Lake, Stream, Flood Control, Water Resources, and Wastewater Treatment Bond Act of 2003 (P.L. 2003, c. 162); the Water Supply Bond Act of 1981 (P.L. 1981, c. 261); N.J.S.A. 13:1D-1 et seq., 58:1A-1 et seq., 58:10A-1 et seq., 58:11A-1 et seq., and 58:12A-1 et seq.; and the Stormwater Management and Combined Sewer Overflow Abatement Bond Act Amendments (P.L. 1997, c. 225); the Water Supply Bond Act Amendments (P.L. 1997, c. 223); and the Dam, Lake, Stream, Flood Control, Water Resources, and Wastewater Treatment Bond Act of 2003 (P.L. 2003, c. 162); and future laws authorizing the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank to provide assistance for construction of environmental infrastructure projects.

Effective Dates: June 2, 2026, Readoption;
July 6, 2026, Recodifications, Amendments, Repeals, and New Rule.

Expiration Date: October 20, 2032.

The New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (the "I-Bank" or "Trust") is readopting N.J.A.C. 7:22-4, Trust Procedures and Requirements, with recodification as N.J.A.C. 19:50-4 with amendments, repeals, and a new rule. The New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program (Water Bank) was established in 1987 as a joint program of the Trust and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) to administer New Jersey's Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, providing low-cost financing for the design, construction, and implementation of projects that protect and improve water quality and ensure safe drinking water. The rules establish the policies and procedures by which the I-Bank provides financing through the Water Bank for the construction of wastewater treatment, water supply, and stormwater/nonpoint source management facilities. N.J.A.C. 19:50-4 is modified to incorporate amendments reflective of new and amended State and Federal law requirements and program procedures and policies. Simultaneous with this rulemaking, the Department is readopting with amendments its companion rules at N.J.A.C. 7:22-3.

This rule adoption may be viewed or downloaded from the I-Bank's website at https://www.njib.gov/nj/rules-and-regulations.

Summary of Public Comment and Agency Response:

The I-Bank accepted comments on the notice of proposal through March 21, 2026. **No comments were received during the public comment period.**

Summary of Agency-Initiated Changes Upon Adoption:

1. Throughout the rulemaking, grammatical changes are effectuated, where necessary.

2. The I-Bank is modifying N.J.A.C. 19:50-4.9(c) to add "one or more of the following situations are present" to reinforce the meaning of the word "or" among the proposed reasons why a project will be removed from the Project Priority List and the Interim Environmental Financing Program Project Priority List pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:50-4.9(c)1, 2, 3, and 4. This change is consistent with the proposed language and aligns with the Department's companion rule at N.J.A.C. 7:22-3.9(c).

3. The I-Bank is modifying N.J.A.C. 19:50-4.9(d) to delete the phrase "project sponsor" as unnecessarily redundant.

4. The I-Bank is modifying N.J.A.C. 19:50-4.9(d)2 to clarify that the Trust shall bypass a project on the Project Priority List and/or the Interim Environmental Financing Program Project Priority List when the lower-ranking project receives Department certification and Trust certification before a higher-ranked project to be bypassed receives the certifications and the lower-ranked project is in the fundable range. This change is consistent with the originally proposed rule section and aligns with the language used in the Department's companion rule at N.J.A.C. 7:22-3.9(d)2.

5. The I-Bank is modifying N.J.A.C. 19:50-4.9(f) to delete "a final agency decision" to accurately reflect the proper administrative hearing process set forth at N.J.A.C. 19:50-4.45.