

The Clean Water Council of New Jersey



Russell Furnari, Chair

Jessica Rittler Sanchez, Vice-Chair

February 26, 2009

The Honorable Mark Mauriello
Acting Commissioner
Department of Environmental Protection
P.O. Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625-0402

RE: RECOMMENDATIONS DERIVED FROM THE CLEAN WATER COUNCIL'S 2008 PUBLIC HEARING ON NEW JERSEY'S WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Dear Acting Commissioner Mauriello:

On behalf of the New Jersey Clean Water Council (CWC), I am pleased to report to you that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 58:25-12, the CWC conducted a public hearing on December 8, 2008 on the subject of New Jersey's Water Infrastructure – Sustainable Funding. The objective of the hearing was to hear public testimony on water infrastructure financing, specifically the issues of funding for capital investments, rehabilitation, operations and maintenance for water supply, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure.

The Council formulated five questions for public consideration and response. Specifically, the Council sought input and examples that address the following questions:

- 1) Funding for Urban Infrastructure;
- 2) Sustainable Pricing and Management;
- 3) Maintenance of Adequate Local Reserves
- 4) Financing Mechanisms for Stormwater Management
- 5) Financial Incentives for Innovative Technologies

During the hearing, the CWC heard from experts who had been invited to address the issue from their diverse perspectives. Gary Sondermeyer, Director of Operations, provided the NJDEP perspective; Michael Curley, Executive Director of the International Center for Environmental Finance, provided a national perspective; James A. Hanlon, Director, EPA's Office of Water, provided EPA's perspective and Edward J. McManimon, III, Partner, McManimon & Scotland, provided the local government perspective. Following these presentations the CWC then heard verbal public testimony or received written testimony from 17 members of the public.

The recommendations attached to this letter summarize the most important ideas identified at the hearing and subsequent CWC member discussions.

The Honorable, Mark N. Mauriello
February 26, 2009

The Clean Water Council looks forward to meeting with you and your staff on Tuesday, March 10, 2009 @ 10:30 am to discuss our findings and recommendations from the 2008 hearing. In addition, we welcome your ideas for a relevant and timely topic for the upcoming hearing in 2009.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 973-430-8848 or via email at Russell.Furnari@pseg.com.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Russell J. Furnari', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Russell J. Furnari
Chair

c: Clean Water Council Members
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