

NJ Clean Water Council Public Hearing

Water Policy & Climate Change

Monday, December 7, 2009

Public Hearing Room, 401 East State Street, Trenton NJ

Purpose of the Hearing

The Clean Water Council of New Jersey is seeking public testimony on the risks posed to water quality and water infrastructure by climate change and on effective means to adaptively manage the risks. Climate change is causing warmer air and surface water temperatures, more intense storms intermixed with longer periods of dry weather, and rising sea levels. While the contributory causes can be debated, the potential impacts of climate change on water resources and related infrastructure need to be identified and properly managed.

Agenda

- 9:00** **Welcome & Introductions ~ *Russell Furnari, Chairman NJCWC***
- 9:10** **Opening Remarks ~ *Nancy Wittenberg, Assistant Commissioner, NJDEP***
- 9:20** **Climate Change in New Jersey ~ *Dr. David Robinson, NJ State Climatologist***
- 9:40** **Climate Change & Water Resource Management ~ *Carol Collier,
Executive Director, Delaware River Basin Commission***
- 10:00** **NJ's Climate Change & Water Resource Policy Initiatives ~
*Dr. Marjorie Kaplan, Office of Climate & Energy, NJDEP***
- 10:30** **Public Testimony**

The Council welcomes testimony on the following questions:

- *What are the high priority risks to clean water posed by the increasing variability of climate and weather events?*
- *What changes to water management policies are needed to increase flexibility and adaptive management, and how will NJ meet the cost?*

Specific recommendations on the following issue areas are encouraged:

- *Stormwater*
- *Wastewater*
- *Drinking water*
- *Instream/pass-by flows*
- *Agriculture and green industry*
- *Water infrastructure*

Persons who have not pre-registered and wish to give public testimony should do so at the registration table. Council requests that remarks be limited to 5 minutes and encourages the submission of written comments to the NJ Clean Water Council c/o Geraldine Skrajewski at Municipal Finance & Construction Element, PO Box 425, Trenton, NJ 08625 or geraldine.skrajewski@dep.state.nj.us .