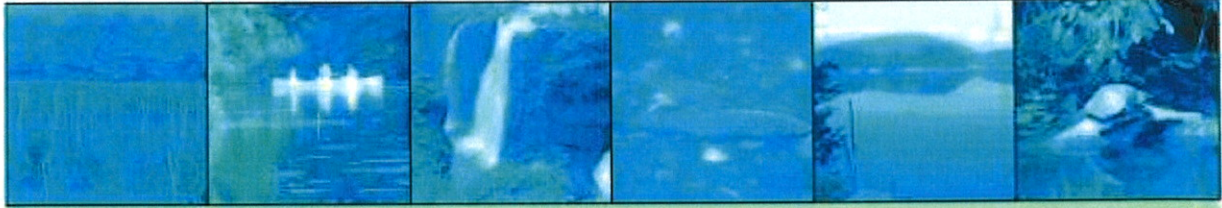


The Clean Water Council of New Jersey



Pamela S. Goodwin, Chair

Dan Van Abs, Vice Chair

April 25, 2012

Robert Martin, Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Mail Code 401-07
401 East State Street
PO Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

Re: New Jersey Clean Water Council 2011 Public Hearing Report

Dear Commissioner Martin:

The New Jersey Clean Water Council in collaboration with the New Jersey Water Supply Advisory Council on November 30, 2011 held a public hearing titled "New Jersey's Water Infrastructure: When Success Is the Only Option." This was the second in a series of Clean Water Council public hearings focused on aging infrastructure, but the first to focus on asset management.

We thank you for your participating in the hearing by providing the opening remarks. We also heard valuable presentations from Steve Albee of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and Dennis Doll, CEO of Middlesex Water Company. Additionally, seven members of the public provided testimony on the array of issues associated with improving asset management of water infrastructure throughout New Jersey.

The testimony at the hearing strongly supported ongoing efforts by the Department of Environmental Protection in collaboration with its colleagues at the Department of Community Affairs and the Board of Public Utilities to enhance the practice of water utility asset management in New Jersey. The program you outlined in your remarks is an excellent step forward in this regard, and provides a sound response to the 2010 recommendations of the Clean Water Council previously provided. We are aware of efforts by the Department in conjunction with both the wastewater and water supply utility industries to move this initiative forward, and look forward to public announcement of the program and participants in the very near future.

In summary, the 2011 public hearing strongly affirmed the findings and recommendations of the 2010 public hearing. We are encouraged by progress to date toward implementing those recommendations, and support continued and redoubled efforts to make asset management a core practice of water supply and wastewater utilities, including thorough assessment of infrastructure integrity and operations, budgeting for sustainable asset management, and measuring progress over time.

Robert Martin, Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
April 25, 2012

We look forward to meeting with you soon to discuss next steps regarding this initiative and future activities of the Clean Water Council.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pamela S. Goodwin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Pamela S. Goodwin
Chair New Jersey Clean Water Council