



October 30, 2023

Notice of Public Hearing and Business Meeting

Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)

Address: 25 Cosey Rd, West Trenton, NJ 08628

Phone: (609) 883 - 9500

Re: Notice of Public Hearing and Business Meeting / Draft Resolution and Administrative Agreement with New Jersey.

Dear Commissioners and DRBC staff,

Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN) and Maya K. van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper, submit the following in response to the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) administrative hearing scheduled for November 8, 2023.

Background

The Delaware Riverkeeper is filing this letter to address concerns in relation to the notice of Public Hearing and Business Meeting published October 20, 2023, on Vol. 88, No. 202 of the Federal Register. Our concerns regard the information that will be discussed at the public hearing and the deadline to file comments on these topics. Our request is as follows:

In relation to the Administrative Agreement between New Jersey and the DRBC, as well as the draft resolution, the public should be provided presentation materials that touch on the rationale behind these amendments.

During this meeting, the commission will address a draft resolution and an Administrative Agreement draft between the DRBC and New Jersey. While the DRBC has disclosed the items that will be modified on the existing administrative agreement, the public should also be provided with presentation materials that further elaborate on DRBC's rationale behind these modifications. We believe that there needs to be a more comprehensive discussion of the underlying purpose, goals, and implications of the

DELAWARE RIVERKEEPER NETWORK
925 Canal Street, Suite 3701
Bristol, PA 19007
Office: (215) 369-1188
fax: (215) 369-1181
drm@delawareriverkeeper.org
www.delawareriverkeeper.org

proposed Administrative Agreement. It is important that the public understands why the Administrative Agreement is being revised and how this will affect communities and the environment.

We request that the public comment period for this resolution and Administrative Agreement be extended 15 days in order to provide adequate and reasonable time for public involvement.

Presently, public hearing on this meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2023 and written comments are due on November 14, 2023, 5:00 p.m. After the hearing, those attempting to submit public comments would have 6 days in total, and only 4 week days to review and integrate information discussed at the public hearing. Meeting such a brief turn around will likely prove difficult for several members of the public. Due to this possibility, we are requesting that the commenting deadline be extended 15 days, in order to provide the public with reasonable time to formulate adequate and comprehensive comments.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact Carlos Donato with any questions at carlos@delawareriverkeeper.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Maya K. van Rossum".

Maya K. van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper
keepermaya@delawareriverkeeper.org

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Tracy Carluccio".

Tracy Carluccio, Deputy Director
tracy@delawareriverkeeper.org

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Kacy Manahan".

Kacy Manahan, Senior Attorney
kacy@delawareriverkeeper.org