DRAFT - FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE OCTOBER 19, 2017 MEETING OF THE HIGHLANDS COUNCIL

RESOLUTION 2017-

NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL ADOPTION OF THE "RMP ADDENDUM 2017-1 PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE HIGHLANDS REGIONAL MASTER PLAN" AS AN AMENDMENT OF, AND ADDENDUM TO, THE HIGHLANDS REGIONAL MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act or Act), N.J.S.A. 13:20-1 et seq., created a public body corporate and politic with corporate succession known as the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council or Council); and

WHEREAS, Section 8(a) of the Highlands Act mandates that the Council prepare and adopt a Regional Master Plan (RMP) for the Highlands Region; and also states that the RMP "shall be periodically revised and updated at least once every six years, after public hearings"; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council is completing the six-year review of the RMP required by the Highlands Act and has released a draft Monitoring Program Recommendation Report (MPRR) for public comment, which includes one or more recommendations to amend the RMP; and

WHEREAS, the Council prepared a document entitled "RMP Addendum 2017-1 Procedure for Considering Proposals to Amend the Highlands Regional Master Plan" (Procedure); and

WHEREAS, on January 19, 2017 the Council approved a Resolution stipulating that the Highlands Council shall utilize the Procedure going forward to finalize the MPRR and to consider any proposals to amend the RMP arising out of the MPRR, and that the Highlands Council shall adopt a final version of the Procedure as an amendment to the RMP; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council must adopt the Procedure as an addendum to the RMP before the Council can consider and adopt any other amendments to the RMP arising out of the MPRR; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Act provides that the RMP may be periodically revised and updated after "public hearings"; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council staff conducted five (5) public hearings in various locations in the Highlands Region and one (1) public hearing in Trenton during the month of September 2017 to solicit public comment on the draft Procedure; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council staff has provided the Highlands Council with its responses to all comments and other input received from interested parties during the public comment period, including any proposed changes to the draft Procedure based upon the public comments received; and

WHEREAS, the RMP Amendment Committee has considered all proposed changes to the draft Procedure and has forwarded its recommendation to Council that it adopt the final Procedure as an amendment of, and addendum to, the RMP; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:20-5.j, no action authorized by the Highlands Council to amend the RMP shall have force or effect until thirty (30) days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Council has been delivered to the Governor for review, unless prior to the expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.

DRAFT - FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE OCTOBER 19, 2017 MEETING OF THE HIGHLANDS COUNCIL

RESOLUTION 2017-12

NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL ADOPTION OF THE "RMP ADDENDUM 2017-1 PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERING PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE HIGHLANDS REGIONAL MASTER PLAN" AS AN AMENDMENT OF, AND ADDENDUM TO, THE HIGHLANDS REGIONAL MASTER PLAN

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Highlands Council hereby adopts the final "RMP Addendum 2017-1 Procedure for Considering Proposals to Amend the Highlands Regional Master Plan" as an amendment of, and addendum to, the RMP.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Highlands Council at its regular meeting held on the 19TH day of October, 2017.

Jim Rilee, Chairman					
Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
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					-
	Motion		Motion Second Yes		