



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Division of Policy Implementation & Watershed Restoration
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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

April 10, 2013

Christopher C. Obropta, PhD, PE
Department of Environmental Sciences
Rutgers, the State University
14 College Farm Road
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901-8551

**RE: Approval of the Upper Salem River Watershed Restoration and Protection Plan
Grant ID #: RP07-024**

Dear Dr. Obropta:

The Department of Environmental Protection (Department), Division of Policy Implementation and Watershed Restoration (Division) is in receipt of the final grant deliverable for the 319(h) grant, RP07-024 entitled, "Upper Salem River Watershed Restoration and Protection Plan" (Plan) dated April 2013 prepared by Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program. The Plan includes a comprehensive watershed characterization and assessment and a management plan to address water quality impairments for the Upper Salem River Watershed.

The Department has reviewed the Plan and has determined that it sufficiently addresses the elements outlined in the executed contract, that it satisfies the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) required nine minimum elements for a watershed restoration plan, and that it adequately identifies and prioritizes specific implementation projects to address water quality impairments in order to improve water quality. Specifically, water quality monitoring, visual assessments, watershed modeling and source tracking were conducted during Plan development, which determined and prioritized pollution sources and water quality problem areas in the watershed. The Plan contains detailed technical information for the recommended structural and non-structural stormwater management and source reduction control measures. The management measures and practices identified in the Plan may also be transferable to other areas of the State where watershed restoration and protection plans are being prepared and implemented. Based upon the information contained in this Plan, the Division hereby approves the Plan as a "Watershed-Based Implementation Plan" for the Upper Salem River Watershed.

Funding for implementation projects identified in this approved Plan should be sought from all available federal and state sources, including but not limited to the 319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program. Please access the Department's website at www.state.nj.us/dep for more information on future 319(h) grant funding opportunities. Specific projects identified in this

approved Plan may also be undertaken by local watershed partners in the implementation of their respective nonpoint source program responsibilities.

As I am sure you are aware, any projects undertaken pursuant to this Plan are subject to appropriate federal, state or local permitting requirements prior to implementation, and that not every project identified in the Plan is eligible for funding under the 319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to improve water quality in the State of New Jersey. I am confident that the various implementation projects identified in this approved Plan will reduce nonpoint source pollution in this important watershed. If further information is required, please contact this Division at 609-633-2201.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Piel, Jr.', written in a cursive style.

Robert Piel, Jr., Director
Division of Policy Implementation and
Watershed Restoration

C: Virginia Kopkash, DPIWR
Barbara Hirst, BEAR
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Kyra Hoffman, DPIWR
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Dr. Steven Yergeau, Rutgers
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