

The Honorable Tom Wolf
Office of the Governor
Room 225
Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo
Office of the Governor
Executive Chamber
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

The Honorable Chris Christie
Office of the Governor
PO Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

The Honorable John Carney
Office of the Governor
Tatnall Building, 2nd floor
150 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. South
Dover, DE 19901

The Honorable Bill de Blasio
Office of the Mayor
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

May 26, 2017

Dear Governors Carney, Christie, Cuomo, and Wolf and Mayor de Blasio:

As organizations working to protect and restore water resources throughout the four states of the Delaware River Watershed, the undersigned members and partners of the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed are extremely concerned that the Delaware River Decree Parties have been unable to reach an agreement on a plan to manage water releases in the Upper Delaware. This impasse threatens the health of the entire watershed from flood mitigation to fish and wildlife habitat protection.

The Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed unites more than 110 organizations working throughout the region to share information, leverage resources, and advocate for a healthy Delaware River Basin. We strongly support long-term, watershed-wide planning that benefits the people, businesses, and fish and wildlife that rely on the incredible natural resources of our watershed.

We understand the current Flexible Flow Management Plan is subject to disagreement and that room for improvement exists, however, it is far superior to the alternative. Should the Decree Parties fail to reach an agreement by midnight on May 31st, management of the reservoirs would revert to the plan known as 'Revision 1,' resulting in dramatically lower water releases that would have a detrimental impact on the overall health of the river and the communities that depend on it.

We urge you to work together to develop a reservoir management plan before midnight on May 31st that avoids Revision 1 and provides strong environmental and economic protections for the entire watershed. Please contact Madeline Urbish, Coalition director, with any questions at madeline.urbish@njudubon.org or 609-400-3845.

Sincerely,

American Rivers
American Littoral Society

Aquashicola/Pohopoco Watershed Conservancy
Brandywine Red Clay Alliance
Castkill Center
Central Jersey Trout Unlimited
Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River
Conservation Voters of Pennsylvania
Damascus Citizens for Sustainability
Delaware Canal 21
Delaware Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Delaware Highlands Conservancy
Delaware Nature Society
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Ernest Schwiebert Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Environmental Advocates of New York
Environment New Jersey
Federation Fly Fishers – Eastern Waters Council
Fly Fishers International
Forks of the Delaware chapter of Trout Unlimited
Friends for the Abbott Marshlands
Friends of the Upper Delaware River
Friends of the Wissahickon
Glen Foerd on the Delaware
GreenTreks
Guardians of the Brandywine
Indian Springs, LLC
Ken Lockwood Chapter of TU
Kirkwood Lake Environmental Committee
Lehigh Gap Nature Center
Little Lehigh Chapter of Trout Unlimited
National Parks Conservation Association
National Wildlife Federation
New Jersey Audubon
New Jersey Conservation Foundation
New Jersey Future
New Jersey League of Conservation Voters
New Jersey Outdoor Alliance
New Jersey State Council of Trout Unlimited
North Delaware River Watershed Conservancy
PennFuture
Pennsylvania Land Trust Association
Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited
Rancocas Pathways
Ray Neirle South Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Ridge & Valley Trout Unlimited
River Network
Stanley Cooper Sr. Chapter of Trout Unlimited
The Delaware River Club
The Land Conservancy
Tobyhanna Creek/Tunkhannock Watershed Association
Town of Hancock, NY
Town of Sanford, NY

University of Delaware Water Resources Center
Upper Delaware Council
Upper Delaware River Business Coalition
Upper Delaware River Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Upper Delaware River Tailwaters Coalition
UrbanPromise Ministires
Valley Forge Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Village of Deposit, NY
Village of Hancock, NY
Western Pocono Trout Unlimited
Wild Trout Flyrodders

CC:

Kelly Heffner, Pennsylvania Decree Party Principal
Dan Kennedy, New Jersey Decree Party Principal
Mark Klotz, New York Decree Party Principal
Paul Rush, New York City Decree Party Principal
David Wunsch, Delaware Decree Party Principal