RESOLUTION 2006-03

NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL SOLICITATION OF PUBLIC INPUT ON DRAFT SCOPING DOCUMENT

WHEREAS, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (the "Highlands Act") mandates that the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (the "Highlands Council") adopt a Regional Master Plan by June of 2006; and

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Highlands Act requires the Highlands Council to prepare and adopt a Regional Master Plan for the Highlands Region after holding a least five public hearing in various locations in the Highlands Region and at least one public hearing in Trenton; and

WHEREAS, Section 9 of the Highlands Act requires the Highlands Council, during the preparation of the Regional Master Plan, to consult with State agencies, officials of local government units, regional, federal departments, agencies and other governmental entities with jurisdictions over lands, waters, and natural resources within the Highlands Region, with interested professional, scientific, and citizen organizations, and with any advisory groups that may be established by the Highlands Council; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to provide continued public participation, the Highlands Council is seeking early public input on the scope of the Regional Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council's Plan Development Committee has reviewed a draft Scoping Document prepared by staff for the Regional Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the draft Scoping Document identifies the breadth of the technical analyses and documentation envisioned by the Highlands Council and it is built upon the insights provided to date through participation of local officials through the Partnership program, input and continuing communication with members of the Technical Advisory Committee work groups, and the Network of stakeholders and interested members of the public; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council desires input from the public on the draft Scoping Document.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

 The Highlands Council hereby authorizes staff to solicit public input on the draft Scoping Document.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Highlands Council at its regular meeting held on the 19th day of January 2006.

John Weingart, Chairman