RESOLUTION 2008-4

NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INITIAL PLAN CONFORMANCE GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act) has created a public body corporate and politic with corporate succession known as the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council); and

WHEREAS, Section 18.b of the Highlands Act states that the Highlands Council shall make available grants and other financial and technical assistance to municipalities and counties for any revision of their master plans, development regulations, or other regulations which is designed to bring those plans, development regulations, or other regulations into conformance with the regional master plan; and

WHEREAS, the grants and other financial assistance shall pay for the reasonable expenses incurred by a municipality or county and shall be distributed according to such procedures and guidelines as may be established by the Highlands Council; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council shall make the grants and other financial assistance from any State, federal, or other funds that shall be appropriated or otherwise made available to it for that purpose, including monies required to be made available from the Highlands Protection Fund; and

WHEREAS, Highlands Council staff has recommended the development of an Initial Assessment Grant Program in the amount of \$1,500,000 that will provide financial and technical assistance to municipalities and counties in the Highlands Region in order to assess conformance to the Regional Master Plan and also to examine the feasibility of voluntary conformance with the Regional Master Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Highlands Council that:

- 1. The Highlands Council staff is hereby authorized to develop and implement a process for the solicitation and distribution of Initial Assessment Grants in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000; and
- 2. The Budget and Finance Committee is hereby authorized to review the proposed grants awards confirming the availability of funds for payment; and
- 3. The Budget and Finance Committee shall report their recommendations to the Highlands Council for final grant award decisions.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Highlands Council at its regular meeting held on the 28th day of February, 2008.

John Weingart, Chairman

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Vote on the Approval of this Resolution	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Alstede	✓			
Councilmember Calabrese				√
Councilmember Carluccio	✓			
Councilmember Cogger				√
Councilmember Dillingham	√			
Councilmember Kovach				✓
Councilmember Letts	√			
Councilmember Pasquarelli	√			
Councilmember Peterson				\checkmark
Councilmember Schrier	√			
Councilmember Vetrano				\checkmark
Councilmember Way	√			
Councilmember Whitenack	-			✓
Councilmember Weingart	✓			