

**RESOLUTION 2009- (AGENDA ITEM #8)  
NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL  
ACCEPTANCE OF AUDIT REPORT**

**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 6.g of the Highlands Act authorizes the Highlands Council to conduct its business as needed to effectuate the purposes of the enabling legislation; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to properly perform independent audits as required by State law, the Highlands Council established the Highlands Council's Audit and Evaluation Committees by Resolution 2006-06 on January 19, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Council's Evaluation Committee approved a Request for Proposal (RFP) to provide auditing services; and

**WHEREAS**, after the review and recommendations of the Evaluation Committee and the Audit Committee, the Highlands Council approved Resolution 2008-12 on April 24, 2008 authorizing the Executive Director to enter a contract for auditing services with Mercadien , P.C. (Mercadien); and

**WHEREAS**, Mercadien completed and prepared final report on the Highlands Council's financial statements and recommended actions for Fiscal Year 2008 and presented it to the Audit Committee of the Highlands Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Council Audit Committee reviewed the final report and the annual management letter with Mercadien and recommended that the Highlands Council accept the final report;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Highlands Council hereby:

- 1) accepts Mercadien's final audit report for Fiscal Year 2008; and
- 2) directs the Audit Committee to continue to oversee the proper implementation of the audit requirements in accordance with State law.

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Highlands Council at its regular meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2009.

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John Weingart, Chairman