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Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council
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JOHN R. WEINGART
Chairman

EILEEN SWAN
Executive Director

September 23, 2008

Mr. Lawrence J. Baier, Director
Division of Watershed Management
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
P.O. Box 418
Trenton, NJ 08625-0418

Re: Proposed Amendment to the Upper Raritan and Upper Delaware Water Quality Management Plans
Borough of Mount Arlington and Musconetcong Sewerage Authority
200/202 Howard Boulevard, Mount Arlington
Borough of Mount Arlington, Morris County
NJDEP Activity # AMD040004

Dear Mr. Baier:

On behalf of the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council), in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:38-1.1(k), please accept the enclosed Consistency Determination (CD) on the above-referenced proposed amendment. The CD for the proposed amendment is based upon our review of the project file as provided to us by the applicant, Highlands Council information and public comment, relative to the standards and policies set forth in the Regional Master Plan (RMP). The Highlands Council approved a resolution on September 18, 2008 authorizing the Executive Director to provide this CD to NJDEP on behalf of the Highlands Council.

Please also find enclosed a document that summarizes the public comments received on the Highlands Council's draft CD. The Highlands Council finds that the proposed project is consistent with all but one of the applicable goals, policies, and objectives of the Regional Master Plan. The exception is the requirement for 125% mitigation of the increase in consumptive/depletive water use (Objective 2B8a). The Borough notes that there are already multiple water conservation measures being implemented within the MCMUA water service area that effectively mitigates the loss of 600 gpd from the source watershed. NJDEP may determine that Mt. Arlington has already met the requirement. The Council staff could not determine whether the total water use has actually declined based on the information provided. It would be necessary for the Borough to conduct a

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comparison of pre to post depletive uses to determine if the actual draw against MCMUA has declined.

These policies and the inconsistencies are described in more detail in the CD.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at (908) 879-6737.

Sincerely,

Eileen Swan
Executive Director

Enclosures – Consistency Determination
Public Comment Summary