

RESOLUTION 1106

TITLE: SUPPORT FOR INCREASED WATER RELEASES FROM THE PEPACTON AND
CANNONSVILLE RESERVOIRS FOR THE ECONOMIC BENEFIT OF THE TOWNS OF HANCOCK,
DEPOSIT AND COLCHESTER.
WATERSHED AFFAIRS/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, decisions regarding water releases from the New York City Cannonsville and Pepacton Reservoirs are dependent upon variable stream circumstances; and

WHEREAS, depending on individual circumstances and conditions, water releases will fall under the auspices of the Delaware River Master as dictated under the 1954 Supreme Court Decree, New York City DEP or the New York State DEC; and

WHEREAS, the adequate release of water is important to the increasing sport of fly fishing for trout in the Towns of Colchester, Deposit and Hancock and is an important part of their local economies, as well as, other water recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, the timing and volumes of water releases in concert with consideration of viable water temperature are critical to the welfare of trout, particularly in the low flow hot and dry summer months; and

WHEREAS, discussions are ongoing with regard to changes in the Delaware River Basin Flexible Flow Management Program (FFMP); and

WHEREAS, the multiple objectives of the FFMP provide for maintaining a favorable environment for the fishery; and

WHEREAS, a favorable environment for the fishery is also important to the economy and needed jobs in Hancock, Deposit and Colchester; and

WHEREAS, New York City's successful water conservation effort over the years has reduced annual water consumption by one third to 1.05 BGD providing for more flexibility in their water cycle for protecting against drought.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of Hancock acknowledges prior improvements to the FFMP for both flood protection and the fishery, now requests that the Decree Parties give further thorough and reasonable consideration for increased water releases under the FFMP from the Cannonsville and Pepacton reservoirs to prevent unnecessary or lethal conditions for the fishery; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution also be forwarded to Delaware River Basin Commission Members and Executive Director, State and Federal elected officials representing Delaware County and the Coalition of Watershed Towns.

Samuel N. Rowe, Jr _____aye

James M. Gardner _____aye

Paul A. Vetrone_____aye

William G. Vernold _____aye

William A. Weyrauch _____aye