



Debra A. McCarty, Water Commissioner

June 4, 2018

Hon. Daryl D. Metcalfe
Chair, State Government Committee
144 Main Capitol
PO Box 202012
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2012

To Representative Metcalfe,

The Philadelphia Water Department has long enjoyed a close working relationship with the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC), an agency that works to maintain the integrity of water resources vital to the health of Southeastern Pennsylvania communities and industries.

The Commonwealth and the City of Philadelphia both played important roles in the creation of the DRBC in 1961. The DRBC remains an effective government model defined by interstate-federal cooperation rather than expensive conflict as witnessed in other interstate waters. The economy and environment of the City and Commonwealth have benefitted from the work of the DRBC over the past 56 years.

The Philadelphia Water Department greatly values DRBC's ongoing efforts to protect a water resource that provides not only high quality drinking water to Philadelphia, but high quality processing water for the expansive food and beverage, energy generation, petroleum refining, pharmaceutical, and chemical processing industries that drive and power the economy in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

More than eight million people live in the Delaware River Basin, and 5.5 million of them are Pennsylvanians. A 2011 report described the basin as an "economic engine" that contributes \$22 billion in annual economic activity and is responsible for 600,000 jobs with \$10 billion in annual wages.

The DRBC provides numerous benefits to Pennsylvania's environment and economy. The Philadelphia Water Department urges you to support DRBC and the value that they bring to the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc Cammarata", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Marc Cammarata, Deputy Water Commissioner
Philadelphia Water Department