WHEREAS, the uniqueness and diversity of Delaware's natural resources are a major determinant of the State's quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the quality of life for future generations will be affected by present and future decisions regarding the management and preservation of these resources; and

WHEREAS, such decisions should be formulated through a process that gives maximum consideration to the collective concerns and desires of the citizens of Delaware.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL N. CASTLE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Delaware, do hereby declare and order that:

1. The Delaware Environmental Legacy Program is hereby created.
2. Said Program shall be developed by a broadly inclusive group representative of the environmental community, business community, industrial community, agricultural community, academic community, and state and local government.

3. The Program's mission shall be to identify the emerging critical issues and problems the State will face concerning protection of the environment. The perspective and needs of various segments of Delaware's community should be considered in formulating a long-range strategy to preserve the quality of the environment for future generations.

4. Objectives of the Program are to:

   a) Gather and evaluate the general public's opinion as to Delaware's emerging long-term environmental issues.

   b) Create broad State and local understanding of the interrelationships between quality of life, economic development and the management and protection of natural resources.

   c) Develop an agenda that outlines an action-oriented set of recommendations to address identified issues and problems.

   d) Prepare and submit to the Governor a report that lays out a framework to carry out these recommendations.
5. (a) Five Committees shall be established to carry out the work of the Program. These Committees are the Air Issues Working Committee, Waste Issues Working Committee, Water Issues Working Committee, Living and Ecological Resources Issues Working Committee and the Land Use Issues Working Committee. Each Committee will have two Co-Chairs who shall be appointed by the Governor. The Steering Committee Chairperson, referenced below, shall issue groundrules for the operation of the five Working Committees. Subject to the Steering Committee's approval, the Working Committees shall adopt workplans, which shall include mechanisms for public input.

(b) Each working committee will be responsible for researching the broad scope of issues that fall within its preview; identifying the most critical emerging issues facing the state in terms of maintaining a quality environment for the future; conducting a detailed analysis of those issues; and recommending appropriate strategies with timetables for their resolution.

6. A Steering Committee for the Program shall be created to give oversight and guidance. Specifically, the Steering Committee shall develop a workplan for the program, coordinate the activities of the five Working Committees, and address cross-cutting
issues. The Steering Committee shall consist of the ten Working Committee Co-Chairs, the Secretary of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, the Secretary of Health and Social Services, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Public Safety, Director of the Delaware Development Office, Director of the Solid Waste Authority, and a designee of the University of Delaware. A. Douglas Rothwell shall serve as Chairperson of this Steering Committee.

7. The Office of State Planning and Coordination shall provide staffing to the Steering Committee and assist the Chairperson as necessary. The Chairperson shall appoint a member of the Office of State Planning and Coordination to serve as Program Coordinator. This individual will coordinate the various activities of the Program and work of the Lead Staff Persons. The Program Coordinator shall serve under the direction of the Chairperson.

8. The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) will serve as the lead staff agency for the Program and appoint Lead Staff Persons for each of the Working Committees. DNREC will work under the direction the Chairperson and will have lead responsibility for providing technical information and expertise to the Program.

9. The five Working Committees shall submit final reports to the Steering Committee not later than June 30, 1987. The Steering Committee shall then submit a
final comprehensive report to the Governor by November 30, 1987. This report should set goals and priorities for natural resource protection or improvement and establish timetables for achieving results and methods for measuring progress. To the extent practicable, the report should consider the budgetary implications of its recommendations and communicate these to the Governor at the earliest possible time in accordance with the State's budget timetable.

APPROVED this 29th day of December, 1986.

Michael R. Castle
Governor

ATTEST:

Secretary of State