



**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
DOVER**

EXECUTIVE ORDER
NUMBER ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-THREE

TO: HEADS OF ALL STATE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES
RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON THE INLAND BAYS

WHEREAS, the Atlantic Barrier beaches and the Indian River, Rehoboth, and Little Assowoman Bays and their surrounding drainage basins are precious coastal resources; and

WHEREAS, the proper use of these natural resources as well as their protection and preservation are of vital interest to all of the citizens of Delaware and most especially to the residents of Sussex County; and

WHEREAS, unrestrained, rapid, and unplanned development in the vicinity of the Inland Bays would cause irreparable harm to the natural environment of the region and further pollute the bays; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Task Force on Marine and Coastal Affairs, the Delaware Coastal Management Program, the Coastal Sussex Water Quality Management Plan, reports by the University of Delaware College of Marine Studies, and numerous research projects have examined the environment and ecology of the Inland Bays; and

WHEREAS, the studies have documented existing environmental problems caused by wastewater treatment and disposal, certain dredging and filling practices of the past, ground water pollution, agricultural run-off, and saltwater intrusion into aquifers; and

WHEREAS, each of these studies contain recommendations for the proper management of the Inland Bays region, many of which have been adopted by federal, state, and local governments yet have not been formally implemented; and

WHEREAS, neither the present regulatory mechanism nor the management approaches tried thus far sufficiently address the long term, cumulative problems created by development in the Inland Bays region.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PIERRE S. du PONT, IV, by the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Delaware, do hereby declare and order as follows:

1. Establishment

The Governor's Task Force on the Inland Bays is hereby established.

2. Membership

Members of the Task Force shall be appointed by the Governor and shall include but not necessarily be limited to:

- a. Two members of the Delaware House of Representatives
- b. Two members of the Delaware State Senate
- c. Two members of the Sussex County Council
- d. One member of the Sussex County Planning and Zoning Commission
- e. The Sussex County Administrator
- f. The Director of the Division of Public Health
- g. The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
- h. One representative of the Delaware Farm Bureau
- i. One representative of the Delmarva Poultry Industry
- j. One representative of the Delaware Grange
- k. One Delaware Real Estate Broker
- l. One representative of the Sussex County Developers Association
- m. Two representatives of the College of Marine Studies
- n. Two representatives of statewide environmental organizations
- o. Three private citizens residing in Sussex County

- p. One representative of the Sussex County Association of Towns
- q. One representative of the Lower Delaware Homebuilders Association
- r. One surveyor and land developer in Sussex County.

3. Chairman

The Chairman of the Task Force shall be selected from its members by the Governor.

4. Duties

The Task Force is hereby charged with the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. To review the existing laws and regulations applicable to the management of the Inland Bays.
- b. To examine the conflicts between local, county, and state government with respect to the management of the Inland Bays.
- c. To assemble and summarize the available information describing the natural environmental and social and economic characteristics of the Inland Bays.
- d. To compile and analyze all available information describing the existing plans for the Inland Bays.
- e. To make a preliminary assessment of the Inland Bays environmental carrying capacity, which includes the identification of areas with special limitations for growth and particularly suited for growth.
- f. To document the available population and economic growth projections to estimate demands for increased services in and around the Inland Bays.
- g. To determine the need for the development of a comprehensive plan for the Inland Bays, the goals and objectives such a plan should consider, and recommend which level or levels of government should be authorized to implement the plan.

5. State Permits and Project Reviews

All state agencies with responsibility for issuing permits for activities which may significantly affect the natural resources of the Inland Bays shall evaluate both the direct and indirect effects of such activities. Before permits are issues, permit issuing agencies shall determine that:

- a. The project will have a beneficial or neutral effect on the resources of the bays; and
- b. The project will not directly or indirectly cause the premature or unnecessary development of other lands or waters; and
- c. The project is in the public interest; and
- d. In the case of publicly constructed or financed projects, the benefits to the general public are carefully weighed against the monetary and environmental costs of the project.

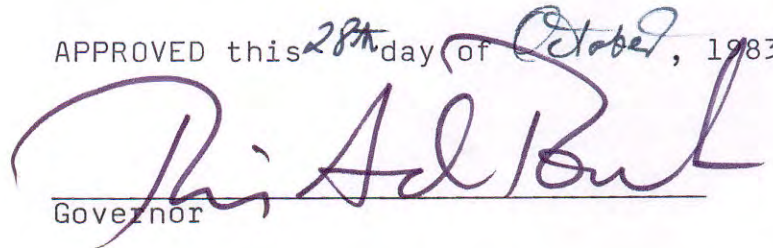
6. Task Force Report

The Task Force shall make its recommendations and proposals to the Governor no later than May 30, 1984.

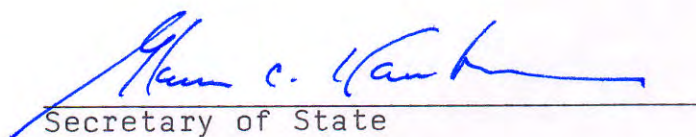
7. Expiration

The provisions of this Executive Order shall expire upon submission of the final report to the Governor.

APPROVED this 28th day of October, 1983.


Governor

ATTEST:


Secretary of State

