TO: HEADS OF ALL STATE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the surface and groundwater resources of the State of Delaware are one of its most critical resources; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control is mandated by state law (7 Delaware Code, Section 6010(b)) "to formulate, adopt, amend and implement a comprehensive water plan" for the proper management of those resources; and

WHEREAS, Delaware, as a member state of the Delaware River Basin Compact, must be adequately prepared to consider and vote on many key water resources issues; and

WHEREAS, drought conditions in the Delaware River Basin have heightened the awareness that our water resources are limited; and

WHEREAS, the various water quality and water supply programs of state and local agencies must be coordinated for the most effective and efficient service to the public; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive water resource planning can provide a means of reducing extraneous, uncoordinated or duplicative planning efforts and expenses, and provide for more effective coordination of state programs with those of other governmental agencies; and

WHEREAS, it is the collective judgment of the chief executive officers of the State and the various political subdivisions of Delaware, that the task of planning for the effective management of Delaware's water resources in a comprehensive manner proceed immediately.

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. The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control shall organize, develop and implement a Comprehensive Water Resources Planning Program – such program to consider all aspects of water resources management including water quality and water supply needs.

2. There is hereby established a Comprehensive Water Resources Management Committee whose membership shall include but not necessarily be limited to:

   Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
   Department of Health and Social Services
   Department of Community Affairs & Economic Development
   Office of Management, Budget & Planning
   Department of Agriculture
   Delaware Geological Survey
   Intergovernmental Task Force
   Public Service Commission
   New Castle County Water Resources Agency
   Kent County Planning Office
   Sussex County Planning & Zoning Department
   City of Dover
   University of Delaware Water Resources Center
   Delaware River Basin Commission
   Chesapeake Section, American Water Works Association
   Delaware Farm Bureau
   Delaware League of Local Governments
   Delaware League of Women Voters
   Delaware Nature Education Society
   Council on Environmental Control
   U. S. Water Resources Council
   U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
3. The Secretary of the DNREC shall designate a chairman of the Comprehensive Water Resources Management Committee (the "Committee"), who shall be responsible for calling meetings of the Committee and preparing agenda for such meetings.

4. The Committee shall provide guidance to the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and serve as a forum for resolution of water resources management issues, development of goals and objectives, exchange of information, coordination of work programs, development of recommendations on methods and approaches to facilitate management of Delaware's water resources, and provide for public information and participation throughout development of the program.

5. The Committee is hereby directed to hold an annual conference on Comprehensive Water Resources Management to review program status and update objectives and priorities for the ensuing year.

APPROVED this 20th day of February, 1981.

Pierre S. du Pont, IV
Governor

ATTEST:

Asst. Secretary of State