

recommended change, the rationale for the change, and the expected impact on other aspects of the Program Structure.

Following the solicitation period, five (5) focus group meetings (addressing each of the program objectives) will be managed by the Department of State, and hosted and facilitated by NAPA at their location (900 7th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20001). Focus group sessions are tentatively scheduled to take place in January 2008. Participation will be limited to a predetermined number of attendees (due to space limitations), but the Department of State and NAPA will make every effort to ensure representation of a broad cross-section of stakeholders. The focus groups will review written comments, discuss any additional suggestions for changes and make recommendations on which changes should be further considered by the Department of State. Individuals and organizations interested in participating in focus group sessions should contact Lena Trudeau, Program Area Director, Strategic Initiatives, National Academy of Public Administration, (202) 315-5476 (Direct), [ltrudeau@napawash.org](mailto:ltrudeau@napawash.org).

Following the focus groups, a plenary session will review recommendations made by each of the groups, before final recommendations are forwarded to the Department of State for consideration by the Federal interagency. The plenary session will occur in the late January timeframe (specific date to be determined) at NAPA offices, and like the focus groups, be limited to a predetermined number of attendees due to space limitations. *Attendance will be determined by the Department of State with the objective of ensuring balanced and broad representation from stakeholders.*

The Department of State is committed to engaging its critical stakeholders in an unprecedented opportunity to review its Program Structure, so as to improve its foreign assistance reform effort currently underway. General information related to U.S. Foreign Assistance may be found at the following Internet site: <http://www.state.gov/ff/>.

Dated: December 19, 2007.

**Jill Copenhaver,**

*Management Officer, Office of U.S. Foreign Assistance, Department of State.*

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**SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION**

**Notice of Actions Taken at December 5, 2007 Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Susquehanna River Basin Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of commission actions.

**SUMMARY:** At its regular business meeting on December 5, 2007 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, the Commission: (1) Recognized former Pennsylvania State Senator Noah Wenger and outgoing New York Alternate Member Scott Foti, (2) heard a report on hydrologic conditions in the basin, (3) adopted a final rule making action and a companion resolution regarding agricultural consumptive use, (4) approved a new aquifer testing guidance for project sponsors proposing groundwater withdrawals, (5) accepted the FY 2007 audit report, and (6) approved a grant and three contracts. The Commission also conducted a public hearing to approve certain water resources projects, to accept three settlement agreements, to deny a request for an administrative hearing, to extend two emergency water withdrawal certificates, and to adopt a revised project fee schedule. See the Supplementary Information section below for more details on these actions.

**DATES:** December 5, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Susquehanna River Basin Commission, 1721 N. Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102-2391.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Richard A. Cairo, General Counsel, telephone: (717) 238-0423; ext. 306; fax: (717) 238-2436; e-mail: [rcairo@srbc.net](mailto:rcairo@srbc.net) or Deborah J. Dickey, Secretary to the Commission, telephone: (717) 238-0422, ext. 301; fax: (717) 238-2436; e-mail: [ddickey@srbc.net](mailto:ddickey@srbc.net). Regular mail inquiries may be sent to the above address.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The final rule making action amends the consumptive use provisions of 18 CFR part 806 relating to agricultural water use and Part 808 relating to an erroneous authority citation, and a companion resolution determines that certain projects supported by the Commission's member states provide sufficient mitigation for agricultural consumptive use. Also, the Commission approved a grant for Chesapeake Bay nutrient monitoring and contracts for the development of a Yield Analysis Tool, the production of New York State inundation maps, and the commencement of a comprehensive

water resources study for the Morrison Cove area of the Juniata Subbasin.

The Commission also convened a public hearing and took the following actions:

*Public Hearing—Projects Approved*

1. Project Sponsor and Facility: Village of Waverly (Well 4), Tioga County, NY. Modification of groundwater approval (Docket No. 20030207).

2. Project Sponsor and Facility: Sno Mountain LLC, Scranton City, Lackawanna County, PA. Application to transfer approvals for surface water withdrawal of 7.300 mgd and consumptive water use of up to 1.600 mgd (Docket No. 20030405).

3. Project Sponsor: Graymont (PA) Inc. Project Facility: Pleasant Gap Facility, Spring Township, Centre County, PA. Modification of consumptive water use approval (Docket No. 20050306).

4. Project Sponsor: Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. Project Facility: Pleasant Gap Facility, Spring Township, Centre County, PA. Modification of consumptive water use approval (Docket No. 20050307).

5. Project Sponsor: Parkwood Resources, Inc. Project Facility: Cherry Tree Mine, Burnside Township, Indiana and Clearfield Counties, PA. Application for consumptive water use of up to 0.225 mgd.

6. Project Sponsor and Facility: Mountainview Thoroughbred Racing Association, Inc., East Hanover Township, Dauphin County, PA. Modification of consumptive water use approval (Docket No. 20020819).

7. Project Sponsor and Facility: King Drive Corp., Middle Paxton Township, Dauphin County, PA. Modification of consumptive water use approval (Docket No. 20020615).

8. Project Sponsor and Facility: York Plant Holding LLC, Springettsbury Township, York County, PA. Application for consumptive water use of up to 0.575 mgd.

*Public Hearing—Enforcement Actions Approved:*

Settlement agreements were accepted for the following projects:

1. Project Sponsor and Facility: Cooperstown Dreams Park, Inc. (Docket No. 20060602), Town of Hartwick, Otsego County, NY.

2. Project Sponsor: Sand Springs Development Corp. (Docket No. 20030406). Project Facility: Sand Springs Golf Community, Butler Township, Luzerne County, PA.

3. Project Sponsor and Facility: BC Natural Chicken, LLC (Docket No. 20040305), Bethel Township, Lebanon County, PA.

*Public Hearing—Denial of Request for Administrative Hearing:*

Under Section 808.2 of the Commission's Regulation relating to administrative appeals, the Commission denied a request for an administrative hearing concerning the following project: Project Sponsor—PPL Susquehanna, LLC; Project Facility—Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Salem Township, Luzerne County, PA. (Docket No. 19950301).

*Public Hearing—Extension of Emergency Water Withdrawal Certificates:*

Emergency water withdrawal certificates were extended for the following projects:

1. Project Sponsor and Facility: City of Lock Haven, Wayne Township, Clinton County, PA.
2. Project Sponsor and Facility: Houtzdale Municipal Authority (Docket No. 19950101), Rush Township, Centre County, PA.

*Public Hearing—Fee Schedule Revision*

The Commission adopted a revised project fee schedule that includes categorical fee adjustments for inflation and the addition of a fee category for withdrawals of less than 100,000 gpd involving a consumptive use. The revised schedule takes effect on January 1, 2008 and remains in effect until December 31, 2008.

**Authority:** Public Law 91-575, 84 Stat. 1509 et seq., 18 CFR Parts 806, 807, and 808.

Dated: December 13, 2007.

**Thomas W. Beauduy,**

*Deputy Director.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Aviation Administration****Notice of Airport Level Designation for Newark Liberty International Airport for the Summer 2008 Scheduling Season**

**AGENCY:** Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

**ACTION:** Notice of Schedule Coordination.

**SUMMARY:** Under this notice, the FAA announces that Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) has been designated a Level 3 Coordinated Airport for the summer 2008 scheduling season under the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Worldwide Scheduling Guidelines. This notice supercedes the September 24, 2007, notice that designated EWR a

Level 2 Schedules Facilitated Airport. 72 FR 54317. Based on a recently completed capacity analysis, a review of last summer's demand, the projections for summer 2008, discussions with carriers regarding future schedule plans, and the potential for increased operations at EWR due to operating limits at JFK, the FAA has determined that a Level 3 airport declaration is warranted.

The FAA's primary constraint is runway capacity, but the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (Port Authority), the airport's operator, also will continue to review proposed schedules for gates, facility, customs, immigration, or similar groundside constraints. The FAA and the Port Authority recognize that separate coordination process for runway slots and gate terminal slots is a burden for carriers and, therefore, the process is under review in order to facilitate communication and reduce the administrative workload. IATA will be consulted regarding "best practices" in use at other coordinated airports.

EWR delays over the last several years have been among the highest in the system. Despite a relatively stable number of daily air traffic operations, the airport is experiencing increased congestion and delay partly as a result of certain peak hours when demand approaches or exceeds the airport's average arrival and departure runway throughput. Comparing the period of October 2006 through September 2007 to the same period in the previous year, the average daily operations at EWR decreased by about one-half percent; the average daily arrivals with delays greater than one hour increased 18 percent; and on-time gate arrivals within 15 minutes of scheduled time decreased from 63.52 percent to 61.72 percent. On-time departures within 15 minutes of scheduled time declined from 71.95 percent to 69.33 percent. The average taxi-out delay remained 28.6 minutes.

To determine the airport's throughput, the FAA engaged MITRE's Center for Advanced Aviation System Development (CAASD) to review two years' worth of operational data for weekdays from September 2006 through August 2007. The analysis included hourly arrival and departure counts and the hourly air traffic control (ATC) established rates for those same periods. These rates were combined to develop an "adjusted" capacity number to reflect the airport's operational capability. This method compensates for periods when demand during a particular hour was below the ATC acceptance rates and also accounts for actual operations

above ATC rates. For the last twelve months of the study period, the average adjusted capacity was 83 operations per hour, down almost five percent from the earlier months analyzed. The FAA is continuing to review ways to improve the airport's capacity and has been engaged in numerous efforts to identify and implement changes that would improve the efficiency of the ATC system. For example, as part of the FAA's New York Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC), over 77 initiatives were identified for the New York City area. A number of these initiatives will benefit the EWR operations. A full copy of the ARC's report to the Secretary of Transportation is available on the FAA's Web site at <http://www.faa.gov>.

The FAA's review of air carriers' schedule submissions for summer 2008 indicated new planned operations in peak hours as well as the retiming of operations from less congested to more congested periods. About 100 new peak-day flights were requested. Proposed schedules in the afternoon and evening period, which were historically high during summer 2007, are of the greatest concern. These proposed schedules, if implemented, would result in a significant increase of operations at EWR and would exceed the airport's optimal rate for multiple, consecutive hours. Delays would increase on an exponential basis and would likely reach levels that are considered unacceptable to passengers, airlines, and other customers.

Under the Level 2 designation, the FAA began discussing carriers' proposed summer 2008 schedules in November at the IATA scheduling Conference in Toronto, Canada. The FAA will grant historic status for foreign flag air carrier and domestic air carrier operations based on their summer 2007 flights if requested for summer 2008. For new requests, the agency identified certain periods that would be beyond the airport's historic throughput and scheduled levels and asked for schedule adjustments from certain carriers to retime operations to other periods of the day where capacity is available. In some cases, carriers responded by withdrawing their new requests for peak hour operations. The FAA is continuing its effort to retime proposed new operation out of peak hours because the agency cannot grant the requests without causing excessive congestion.

The FAA plans to finalize summer 2008 schedules with carriers within the next few weeks. Even if the FAA were to be fully successful in reaching agreement on schedule plans under Level 2 for summer 2008, the FAA now believes that an IATA Level 3