Princeton Hydro



20 February 2014

Atten: Ms. Barbara Hirst, Bureau Chief BEAR
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Water Resource Management
Division of Water Monitoring Standards
401 E State Street
PO Box 420
Mail Code 401-03
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0418

Re: SFY2014 Section 319(h) NPS Grant

Deal Lake Watershed Protection Plan - Non-Point Source Pollution Control Project

Dear Ms. Hirst:

On behalf of the Deal Lake Commission and in the capacity of the Commission's environmental consultant the accompanying proposal for FY2014 319(h) funding to implement a Non-Point Source Pollution Control Project is submitted for your review. As was clearly documented in the Deal Lake Watershed Protection Plan, inadequately managed and treated stormwater runoff is the primary cause of the lake's water quality impacts and its failure to consistently meet NJDEP's and USEPA's swimmable and fishable standards. Although with the assistance of the NJDEP and our stakeholders we have started to measurably improve the quality of Deal Lake, more needs to be done to decrease the influx of phosphorus, sediment and bacteria from the surrounding watershed.

As detailed in the proposal's scope of work, we will use the requested funding to implement a series of stormwater management projects. These projects will enable us to continue to improve the lake's water quality and ecological services in accordance with the goals of the NJDEP approved Deal Lake Watershed Protection Plan and the Deal Lake TMDL. Our project will also enable us to leverage the improvements gained through the recent completion of our FY2010 319(h) project and expand the benefits of the scheduled NRCS funded post-hurricane remedial dredging of the lake.

Our project contains green infrastructure, storm resiliency, living shoreline and NPS pollution reduction elements, all of which will be conducted cohesively to increase the project's cumulative benefits. The specific elements of our project are as follows:

- The creation of living shorelines to restore lake edges eroded, destabilized and impacted by Hurricane Sandy. Once restored these areas will be protected from future erosion and provide new habitat for use by anadromous fish (blueback herring and alewife) as well as the game fish annually stocked by the NJDEP,
- The construction/ installation of green infrastructure stormwater management measures that will mitigate legacy CSO impacts to the lake and further decrease non-point source loading of pathogens, nutrients and sediment to the lake, and
- Increased storm resiliency through improvements to the actuators that control the lake's flume gates.

The living shoreline project will link two of our recently completed 319(h) funded projects; the Comstock Ave MTD installation and the restoration of the Asbury Park boat launch shoreline. Details of both projects are summarized in the USEPA Success Story provided as an appendix to our proposal.

This funding is desperately needed to enable the Deal Lake Commission to expand the benefits achieved through our past efforts, rebound from the impacts of Hurricane Sandy and foster the continued support and interest of our stakeholders and lake users. We feel that the projects outlined herein will serve as examples for the State's other Coastal Lakes as well as all waterbodies impacted by NPS pollution, especially those located in urbanized watersheds. Our project will also advance the NJDEP's Green Infrastructure and Living Shoreline initiatives. If you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to directly contact the Deal Lake Commission.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Souza, Ph.D.

President, Princeton Hydro, LLC

CC: D. Brockel, DLC Chairman

L. Carafa, DLC Clerk