

CHAPTER 349

AN ACT appropriating moneys from the "Water Supply Fund" for the costs of certain water supply projects, and for the costs of planning and feasibility studies for ground and surface water programs, water delivery and treatment programs.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. a. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection from the "Water Supply Fund" established pursuant to section 14 of the "Water Supply Bond Act of 1981," P.L.1981, c.261, as amended by P.L.1983, c.355 and P.L.1997, c.223, the sum of \$53,000,000 to be allocated and used for the following purposes:

(1) \$30,000,000 shall be used for the costs of a drought mitigation project to enhance the interbasin transfers between the Raritan and Passaic Basins, including the interconnection facility located at Virginia Street in Newark City, Essex County;

(2) \$10,000,000 shall be used to conduct planning and feasibility studies and for the engineering and design of the Confluence Pumping Station and Pipeline Water Supply Development Project to provide additional safe yield to the Raritan Basin;

(3) \$2,000,000 shall be used to conduct a regional water supply source and infrastructure feasibility study in Gloucester, Salem and Cumberland Counties;

(4) \$10,000,000 shall be used to conduct planning and feasibility studies and acquisition of future reservoirs and other sources of water supplies;

(5) \$1,000,000 shall be used to cover the costs associated with the treatment of water supplies in Berlin Township, Camden County.

b. To the extent that the balance of the moneys available in the "Water Supply Fund" that have not been previously appropriated pursuant to law is insufficient to support the sum appropriated pursuant to subsection a. of this section, moneys returned to the "Water Supply Fund" due to loan repayments, project withdrawals, cancellations, or cost savings involving projects previously funded by law shall be made available from the "Water Supply Fund" to support the remainder of the appropriation made therein as required.

2. The expenditure of the sum appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2005, c.349 is subject to the provisions and conditions of P.L.1981, c.261, as amended by P.L.1983, c.355 and P.L.1997, c.223, and any rules and regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection pursuant thereto.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 12, 2006.