

BOROUGH OF RED BANK
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH
RESOLUTION NO. 14-240

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF EPA/ARMY CORPS PROPOSED DEFINITION OF
“WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES” UNDER THE CLEAN WATER ACT**

Councilman Murphy offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Waters of the United States provide an extraordinary value for the protection of public health, recreational resources, economic livelihood related to clean water, and are a treasured resource, and;

WHEREAS, the Clean Water Act is the fundamental federal law protecting the Waters of the United States from pollution, degradation and destruction, and;

WHEREAS, critical streams and wetlands which supply drinking water protect against floods and filter pollution previously were protected under the Clean Water Act but federal policy changes over the last decade have left these streams and wetlands vulnerable to degradation or destruction, and;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers have proposed a clarifying rule to restore protection for streams and wetlands previously protected under the Clean Water Act, safeguarding water quality in the nation’s waters, protecting jobs in businesses that depend on clean water and safeguarding drinking water for one in three Americans, and;

WHEREAS, more than 1,000 peer-reviewed scientific studies have confirmed that headwater, intermittent and ephemeral streams, and wetlands affect the quantity and quality of water in larger bodies of water downstream, and;

WHEREAS, these vulnerable Waters of the United States impact sources of drinking water for over 117 million Americans, including 4.3 million New Jerseyans, and;

WHEREAS, strong federal standards are needed because water does not respect political boundaries and flows from one state to another, and;

WHEREAS, the proposal leaves in place all agricultural exemptions and creates new exemptions for agricultural practices related to conservation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Red Bank supports the proposed Definition of “Waters of the U.S.” Under the Clean Water Act and urges the Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers to finalize these important protections for our nation’s water resources.

Seconded by Councilman DuPont and adopted on roll call by the following vote:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Murphy	(x)	()	()	()
Councilwoman Burnham	(x)	()	()	()
Councilwoman Horgan	()	()	()	(x)
Councilwoman Lewis	()	()	()	(x)
Councilman Zipprich	()	()	()	(x)
Councilman DuPont	(x)	()	()	()
Mayor Menna	(x)	()	()	()

Dated: August 27, 2014