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INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON THE DELAWARE RIVER BASIN.

Report To

Commissions (Committee) on Interstate Cooperation
of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware

On

Status of Current Water Resources Studies in Delaware River Basin.

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February 4, 1959

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Report To
Commissions (Committee) on Interstate Cooperation
Of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware
On Status of Current Water Resources Studies in Delaware River Basin

February 4, 1959

The purpose of this report is to apprise you of the status of two separate but related investigations currently being made of the problem of control, development and utilization of the water resources of the Delaware River Basin. They are:

1. The U.S. Army Engineers three-year, \$2,000,000 review survey of the water resources of the Delaware River Basin.
2. The Syracuse University Research Institute \$131,000 study of governmental organization for the integrated management of the Delaware River Basin's water resources.

ARMY ENGINEERS SURVEY

Authority for the Army Engineers survey is derived from a series of four Resolutions adopted by the U.S. Senate Committee on Public Works. The initial and basic Resolution, adopted April 13, 1950, was offered to the Committee at the request of this Commission (Incodel). It called upon the Engineers to review its "308" report of 1934 and supplementing reports on the Delaware River in the light of the water project then being formulated by Incodel. The other three Resolutions were introduced in the Committee as an aftermath of the Hurricane Diane flood of August, 1955.

In the Procedural Plan for the Army Engineers survey dated 25 March 1957, the then Philadelphia District Engineer, Col. Allen F. Clark, Jr., defined the Mission to be: "To report by September 1959, through the Division Engineer and the Chief of Engineers, for transmittal

to the Congress of the United States, the best plan for the conservation, control and use of the water resources of the Delaware River Basin."

Col. William F. Powers, the present District Engineer, at an Incodel meeting on December 9, 1958, described the goal of the survey to be "the preparation of a rational plan for controlling the uneven flow of the Delaware River to the practical and economical extent required to insure optimum availability of surface water for every use of water for the future - - - - -."

Participating in the Engineers survey are 17 federal agencies in six departments and one independent agency; the States of Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania; the Cities of New York and Philadelphia; the Delaware River Basin Advisory Committee (1) and Incodel.

The progress of the survey is reviewed periodically at meetings of a Coordinating Committee composed of one representative of each of the six federal departments and of the independent federal agency, the four states and the two cities. The District Engineer of the U.S. Engineers is chairman of the Committee. Representatives of Incodel and of the Delaware River Basin Advisory Committee are invited to all meetings of the Coordinating Committee.

The seventh and latest meeting of the Coordinating Committee was held in Philadelphia, January 22-23, 1959. At this meeting was unveiled a proposed basic plan for the control and utilization of the water resources of the Delaware River Basin. The proposal was presented as preliminary and tentative, subject to revision after study and comment by interested

(1) See page 5 for an explanation of this agency.

agencies. The plan is in two phases; the first is intended to meet the water supply and flood control requirements, with their incidental hydro-electric, recreational and other benefits, until about the year 1980.

The second phase is designed to meet the requirements from 1980 to 2010.

The plan is the end product of an appraisal of 190 potential reservoir sites. The first phase consists of the following five projects:

1. The Tocks Island multiple-purpose dam and reservoir on the Delaware River about 7 miles above the Delaware Water Gap.
2. The Sterling flood control dam and reservoir on Wallenpaupack Creek at the upstream limit of Lake Wallenpaupack. Detailed study and negotiations may indicate that the acquisition of positive control over equivalent flood control capacity in Lake Wallenpaupack would be an acceptable and practicable substitute for this project.
3. The Tobyhanna multiple-purpose dam and reservoir on the Lehigh River at the head of the pool of the Bear Creek project and about 15 miles southeast of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Flood control storage is not needed in this project because of the Bear Creek flood control reservoir currently under construction. The hydro-power potentials of this project, including pumped-storage possibilities, will be fully studied for possible eventual exploitation.
4. The Berneville multiple-purpose dam and reservoir project on Tulpehocken Creek (a tributary of the Schuylkill River) about 10 miles northwest of Reading, Pennsylvania.
5. The Basherkill power project on Neversink Creek about 5 miles northeast of Port Jervis, New York, has been included in this initial phase of the plan as a possible worthwhile pumped-storage power project to be considered for construction at non-Federal expense.

It is claimed that the first phase of the basic plan will result in the following benefits:

1. Reduce flood damages along the Delaware River below Tocks Island to about 35 percent of damages that would be sustained without the project.

2. Provide an assured minimum flow in the Delaware River at Trenton of 3400 cubic feet per second. May warrant inclusion of run-of-river hydro-electric plants along the River at Belvidere, Chestnut Hill, Holland, Eagle Island and Goat Hill.

3. Provide an assured minimum flow in the Schuylkill River at Philadelphia of about 600 cubic feet per second.

4. Support a recreational usage of eight million visitor-days a year.

Phase 2 of the comprehensive program is intended to meet the requirements of the Basin and its adjoining service area to about the year 2010. It would add 16 dams and reservoirs. Of the 16 projects, nine would be in Pennsylvania, four in New Jersey, two in Delaware and one in New York. Five are classified as multiple-purpose projects excluding flood control; and one as a hydro-electric power project. Appended is a map showing the location of all of the reservoirs in the proposed plan. Also appended is a list of the projects in phase 2 of the plan.

The Army Engineers survey is scheduled to be completed by the end of 1959.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INSTITUTE STUDY

The Syracuse University Research Institute study of governmental machinery for the management of the Delaware Basin's water resources is being conducted under the terms of a two-year contract with Delaware River Basin Research, Inc., hereinafter called the Corporation. The contract was executed soon after the approval, on March 25, 1957, of a \$131,000 grant to the Corporation by the Ford Foundation.

Delaware River Basin Research, Inc. was created as a non-profit corporation in the Spring of 1956 by the Delaware River Basin Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee had been established some months earlier by the Governors of Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania and the Mayors of the Cities of New York and Philadelphia to review the water resources problems of the Delaware River Basin, with special attention to the Army Engineers survey. The Committee has no statutory authority.

The functions of the Committee are defined in a Directive by the aforesaid Governors and Mayors dated August, 1956, a copy of which is appended. It is to be noted that the Directive requests the Committee to conclude its activities when "the task of replanning the water and related land resources of the Delaware River Basin has been completed and an appropriate program of development recommended to the governments involved."

Evidently, the compelling force that caused the Committee to create the Corporation was to clear the way for obtaining grants from the Ford Foundation and other similar sources for financing new studies and research projects regarding water resources development problems in the Delaware River Basin. It is understood that governmental agencies usually are not deemed to be eligible for such funds and the Committee, having governmental aspects, could not therefore be the direct recipient of a grant.

The Corporation is presently composed of 24 members including all six members of the Advisory Committee. U.S. Senators Clifford P. Case of New Jersey and Joseph S. Clark of Pennsylvania are members. Walter M. Phillips is Executive Secretary of the Committee and also, at present, Secretary of the Corporation.

The Syracuse University Research Institute study is in charge of Dr. Roscoe C. Martin, its director.

It is understood that a schedule for the Syracuse study at one time called for the submission of a preliminary report in the Fall of 1958 and the completion of the study by March, 1959. These dead lines apparently have been extended.

At the Incodel meeting of December 9, 1958, James Kerney, Jr., an Incodel member from New Jersey and the president of the Corporation, who had been asked to make a report on the status of the Syracuse study, stated that:

(a) A preliminary draft of a chapter of the study report on "functions" had been submitted to and considered by the Corporation in November, 1958. The report was devoted to an enumeration of the probable functions of a Delaware River Basin water management agency. It did not, however, give any indications of the nature of conclusions reached by the Institute as to governmental agency possibilities and the Institute, at that time, had not given the Corporation any information of this kind.

(b) The time schedule for the study now calls for the submission to the Corporation of other chapters of the report during the next several months and the presentation by May or June of a "preliminary summary report." This report, with the approval of the Corporation, will be circulated among selected interested agencies, including Incodel, for review and comments. The final report is scheduled to be completed by September, 1959.

A clue as to the probable nature of the conclusions of the Syracuse study may perhaps be gained by interpretation of parts of a report given by Dr. Martin at Incodel's annual meeting on October 3, 1958. At that time he cited the following six general propositions as comprising the foundation for the study:

1. The resources and needs of any given river basin are of paramount importance.
2. There will be a need for a basin-wide organization to administer certain regional water functions not susceptible of local or piecemeal management.
3. The administrative organization must be governmental in character.
4. The structure of the administrative organization will need to be flexible.
5. A river basin organization should rest on the broadest possible base, with appropriate participation by federal, state and local governments.
6. Administrative experience with water resources in other areas will prove instructive in planning an organization for the Delaware.

Dr. Martin described the task ahead of him as "that of identifying the water-resource functions appropriate for assignment to a valley-wide agency and laying out an administrative structure adequate to the demands of integrated water resources management in the Delaware Valley."

DISCUSSION

The foregoing report on the status of the Army Engineers survey and of the Syracuse University study of the development of the water resources of the Delaware River Basin is being submitted to the members of each of Incodel's four parent Commissions (Committee) on Interstate Cooperation, pursuant to a motion adopted by Incodel at its meeting on December 9, 1958.

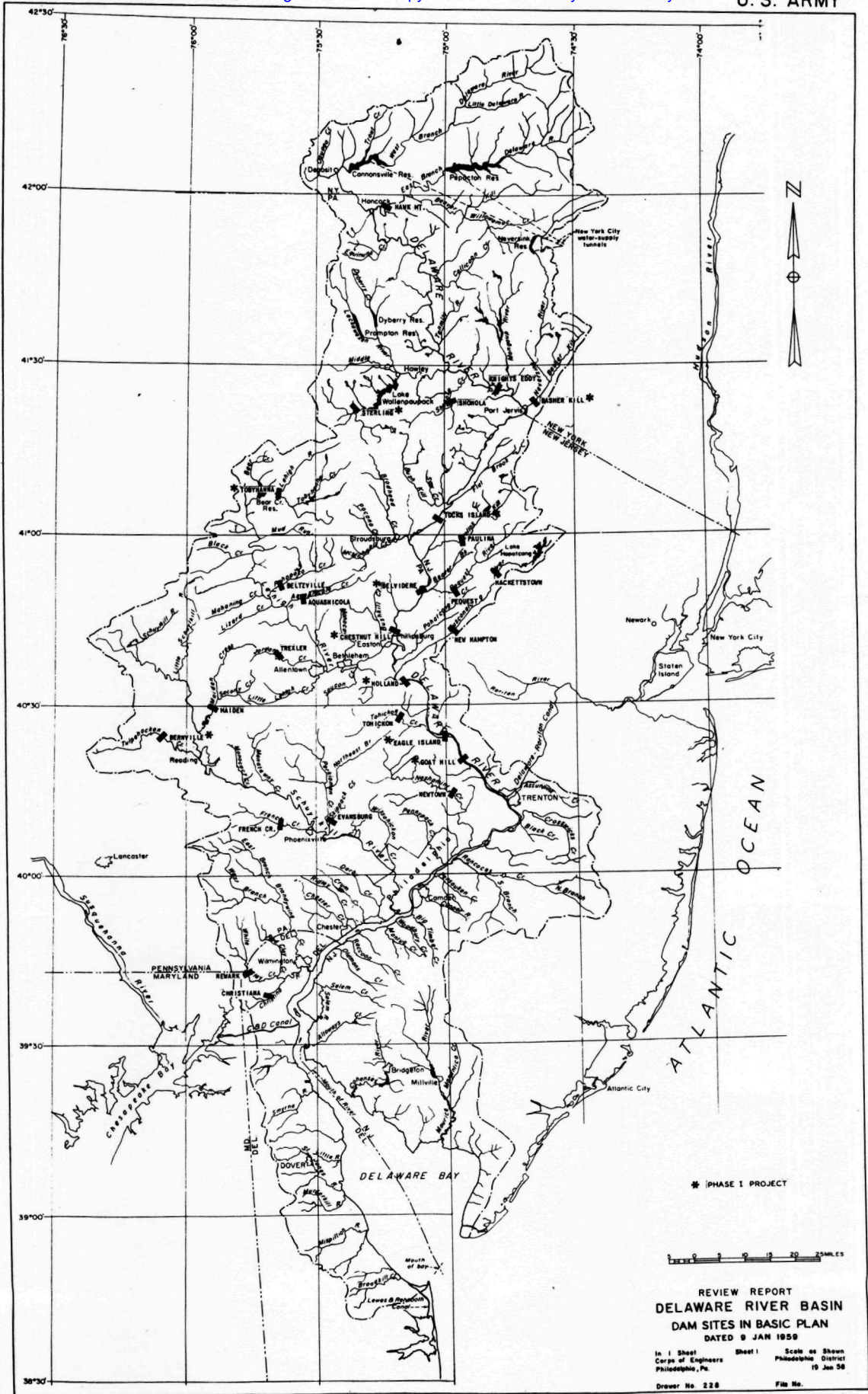
By the same motion, Incodel agreed that it should urge the appointment of a committee of representatives of the Attorneys General of the four states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware for the

purpose of giving appropriate consideration to the current studies of the water resources development problems of the Delaware River Basin.

The members of Incodel were also of the opinion that Incodel should undertake an independent study regarding the need for establishing a governmental agency for the management of water resources projects in the Basin. It was believed that this should be done, among other reasons, to produce criteria for the appraisal of the recommendations of the Syracuse study.

Incodel, by motion, also agreed to suggest that there be a legislative committee in each of the states that would give special attention to the investigations now being made of the Delaware River Basin water problems. It was proposed that such committee might be a standing committee, or a special committee, or a sub-committee of the Commissions on Interstate Cooperation. An important consideration, in the opinion of Incodel, is that the suggested legislative committee could function, if necessary, while the Legislatures were not in session.

Incodel is desirous of having the benefit of the opinions and desires of its parent Commissions (Committee) on Interstate Cooperation in regard to the implementation of the suggested actions set forth in this section of its report to the aforesaid agencies. It would seem that the resolution of the questions of far reaching importance raised by the Army Engineers survey and the Syracuse University study indicate the desirability for a joint conference of the Commissions (Committee) on Interstate Cooperation and Incodel.



**REVIEW REPORT
DELAWARE RIVER BASIN
DAM SITES IN BASIC PLAN
DATED 9 JAN 1959**

In 1 Sheet Sheet 1 Scale as Shown
Corps of Engineers Philadelphia District
19 Jan 59
Drawer No. 228 File No.

PROPOSED SECOND PHASE PROJECTS

ARMY ENGINEERS DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

As Presented at Seventh Coordinating Committee Meeting, January 23, 1959

<u>Project</u>	<u>Stream</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Type of Development</u>
Hawk Mountain	E. Br. Delaware R.	N.Y.	Multiple-purpose
Shohola Fall	Shohola Cr.	Pa.	Hydro-power
Paulina	Paulins Kill	N.J.	Multiple-purpose excl. f.c. *
Pequest	Pequest R.	N.J.	Multiple-purpose excl. f.c. *
Hackettstown	Musconetcong R.	N.J.	Multiple-purpose excl. f.c. *
New Hampton	Musconetcong R.	N.J.	Multiple-purpose excl. f.c. *
Beltzville	Pohopoco Cr.	Pa.	Multiple-purpose
Aquashicola	Aquashicola Cr.	Pa.	Multiple-purpose
Trexler	Jordan Cr.	Pa.	Multiple-purpose
Tohickon	Tohickon Cr.	Pa.	Multiple-purpose excl. f.c. *
Newton	Neshaminy Cr.	Pa.	Multiple-purpose excl. f.c. *
Maiden	Maiden Cr.	Pa.	Multiple-purpose
French Cr.	French Cr.	Pa.	Multiple-purpose excl. f.c. *
Evansburg	Skippack Cr.	Pa.	Multiple-purpose excl. f.c. *
Newark	White Clay Cr.	Del.	Multiple-purpose excl. f.c. *
Christina	Christina R.	Del.	Multiple-purpose excl. f.c. *

* f.c. - abbreviation for flood control

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DIRECTIVE TO THE DELAWARE RIVER BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Joseph S. Clark, Jr. . . . Appointee of Mayor Richardson Dilworth
Irving V. A. Huie. . . . Appointee of Mayor Robert F. Wagner, Jr.
James Kerney, Jr. . . . Appointee of Governor Robert B. Meyner
Norman M. Lack. . . . Appointee of Governor J. Caleb Boggs
John P. Robin Appointee of Governor George M. Leader
Thorndike Saville Appointee of Governor Averell Harriman

Gentlemen:

Having undertaken at our request to re-examine and evaluate the water and related land resource problems of the Delaware River Basin, you are hereby constituted the Delaware River Basin Advisory Committee.

We ask that you give your attention to the collection and evaluation of existing and newly-developing information about water and related land resources of the Delaware River Basin, cooperate closely with other agencies making studies in relation thereto, assist in setting up and obtaining financing for new studies and research which are needed for the completion of a comprehensive, multiple-purpose plan, obtain the review and advice of the best technical experts available on all major aspects of the planning work, help in the final formulation of such a plan, aid in the marshalling and dissemination of information necessary for adequate public understanding of the subject, assist in keeping local governments of the Basin advised and alerted to their interests, report to us from time to time as the planning progresses, and make recommendations to us on fundamental questions of policy relating to the plan and means of carrying out the developments provided for in the plan.

You are authorized to set up an office and staff within funds made available by the participating governments, and to seek funds and services from non-profit organizations, and to develop such organization as may be required to perform these tasks. In carrying out this directive it shall be understood that you shall recognize and accept those Delaware River Basin water supply projects presently constructed or under construction.

We request that the Committee function in these regards only until the task of replanning the water and related land resources of the Delaware River Basin has been completed and an appropriate program of development recommended to the governments involved.

Signed,

J. Caleb Boggs
Governor of Delaware

Robert B. Meyner
Governor of New Jersey

Averell Harriman
Governor of New York

George M. Leader
Governor of Pennsylvania

Robert F. Wagner, Jr.
Mayor of New York City

Richardson Dilworth
Mayor of Philadelphia

August, 1956