

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT
DIVISION OF WATER USE PLANNING**

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 392-2130-005

TITLE: REGULATION OF INTERBASIN TRANSFERS

AUTHORITY: Water Rights Act of June 24, 1939, P.L. 842, No. 365, as amended, 32 P.S., 631 *et seq.*

POLICY: Interbasin transfers of water should be discouraged unless: (a) the importing basin has made reasonable efforts to develop its own resources, and further development of those resources is impractical or would engender overriding adverse economic, social or environmental impacts; (b) the transfer will not cause substantial adverse impacts on the ability of the exporting basin to meet its own needs; and (c) compensation is provided to the exporting basin during low flow periods through provision of flow augmentation.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to prevent full-time or long-term reductions in streamflow in a watershed, resulting from waters being exported to another basin for use.

APPLICABILITY: This policy applies to all applications for surface water allocation submitted by a public water supply agency, both for direct withdrawal of surface waters and for purchase of surface waters from another public water supply agency.

DISCLAIMER: The policies and procedures outlined in this guidance document are intended to supplement existing requirements. Nothing in the policies or procedures shall affect regulatory requirements.

The policies and procedures herein are not an adjudication or a regulation. There is no intent on the part of the Department to give these rules that weight or deference. This document establishes the framework, within which DEP will exercise its administrative discretion in the future. DEP reserves the discretion to deviate from this policy statement if circumstances warrant.

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TECHNICAL GUIDANCE:

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