Administrative Order No. 2012-16

Pursuant to statutory authority granted to the Department of Environmental Protection at N.J.S.A. 58:24-2, and to ensure that the public health is not at risk from the consumption of shellfish that may have been subjected to pollution or other condition that may render the shellfish dangerous to health, by Administrative Order 2012-10a signed by me on October 26, 2012, effective immediately after sunrise on October 29, 2012, the Department closed all waters of the State to shellfish harvest because of potentially degraded water quality resulting from Hurricane Sandy.

The Department hereby reopens prohibited waters in the Atlantic Ocean for the harvest of surf clams under the Bait Program, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:12-9.4. Harvesters must possess a currently valid Surf Clam Bait Permit No. 2a issued by the Bureau of Marine Water Monitoring. Surf clams harvested under this permit are for bait only, and not for human consumption.

Portions of Administrative Order Number 2012-10a signed by me on October 26, 2012, and all previous Administrative Orders or portions thereof that are inconsistent with this Order, are hereby superseded and repealed.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

Dated: 11/16/2012

Bob Martin, Commissioner