

## CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

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In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Section § 42-35-2.6 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, following is a concise explanatory statement:

**AGENCY:** Department of Environmental Management

**DIVISION:** Resilience and Climate Change

**RULE IDENTIFIER:** 250-RICR-170-05-1

**RULE TITLE:** RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE CLIMATE RESILIENCE FUND

**REASON FOR RULEMAKING:** The purpose of these regulations is to create a Climate Resilience Fund to receive, hold and administer the use of the \$5,000,000 portion of the '2018 RI Green Economy and Clean Water Bond' and any future bond allocations earmarked for similar and related purposes. The funds will provide grants to Governmental and Non-profit entities for restoring and improving the climate resilience of vulnerable coastal habitats, as well as river and stream floodplains with specific priority to projects that improve community resilience and public safety. The regulations outline the application, review and award process, including eligible project categories and eligible/ineligible costs.

**ANY FINDING REQUIRED BY LAW AS A PREREQUISITE TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE RULE:**  
*NO*

**TESTIMONY, COMMENTS AND OBJECTIONS:** No comments were offered during the public hearing. Subsequently, prior to the close of the public comment period, the Department received comments from a total of 5 parties. DEM responded to all comments in a "Response to Comments" document and proposed changes to the regulations in response to those comments. Some comments were rejected by the Department.

**CHANGE TO TEXT OF THE RULE:** The Department adjusted the following sections in response to public comment: 1.1, 1.4(A)(2), 1.4(A)(3), 1.5(B)(1), 1.7(B), and 1.8.1,

**REGULATORY ANALYSIS:** None.

**DATE THE FINAL RULE WAS SIGNED BY THE AGENCY HEAD:**