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August 5, 2019

Via Electronic Filing

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission 400 North Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re:

PaPUC Docket No. M-2018-2645983

Pa. P.U.C. v. North Heidelberg Sewer Company

PaPUC Docket No. I-2018-3001161

Section 529 Investigation - North Heidelberg Sewer Company

# Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

We are counsel to Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc. ("Aqua") concerning the above matters. In its Order entered February 9, 2018, at M-2018-2645983, the Public Utility Commission identified Aqua as receiver for the North Heidelberg Sewer Company and, in Appendix 10 of that Order, directed Aqua to "[s]ubmit an initial status report with the Commission within 60 days of assuming operations and then quarterly thereafter to detail any relevant updates pursuant to duties and responsibilities assigned through receivership." As required by subpart 10 of Appendix A, we are submitting, via electronic filing with this letter, Aqua's Sixth Status Report dated August 5, 2019. We are also filing the Sixth Status Report at I-2018-3001161, the Section 529 Investigation Docket. Please contact me with any questions concerning this matter.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS, NIESEN & THOMAS, LLC

By

Thomas T. Niesen

#### Enclosure

cc:

The Honorable Steven K. Haas (via email, w/encl.)

Carrie B. Wright, Prosecutor (via email, w/encl.)

Christine Maloni Hoover, Senior Assistant Consumer Advocate (via email, w/encl.)

John Evans, Small Business Advocate (via email, w/encl.)

Sean Cooper, Esq. (via email, w/encl.)

Tori L. Giesler, Esq. (via email, w/encl.)

Aaron J. Beatty, Esq. (via email, w/encl.)

Susan Simms Marsh, Esq. (via email, w/encl.)

John D. Hollenbach (via email, w/encl.)

Alexander R. Stahl, Esq. (via email, w/encl.)



# SIXTH STATUS REPORT TO THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

# NORTH HEIDELBERG SEWER COMPANY AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC. RECEIVERSHIP

DOCKET NO. M-2018-2645983

DOCKET NO. I-2018-3001161

Dated: August 5, 2019

#### A. BACKGROUND

On February 9, 2018, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("PUC" or the "Commission") entered an Order in Docket No. M-2018-2645983 ("February 9 Order") naming Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc. ("Aqua" or the "Company") as receiver for the North Heidelberg Sewer Company ("NHSC"). Aqua was ordered to assume its receivership role on March 5, 2018. Included within the PUC's February 9 Order, the Company was directed to "[s]ubmit an initial status report with the Commission within 60 days of assuming operations and then quarterly thereafter to detail any relevant updates pursuant to duties and responsibilities assigned through receivership."

Aqua submitted its initial status report on the operations of NHSC as directed by the Commission on May 4, 2018. Aqua submitted its second status report to the Commission on August 6, 2018. Aqua submitted its third status report to the Commission on November 5, 2018. Aqua submitted its fourth status report to the Commission on February 3, 2019. Aqua submitted its fifth status report to the Commission on May 7, 2019. Aqua now submits its sixth status report on the operations of NHSC to the Commission.

#### B. SIXTH STATUS REPORT

### 1. Operations and Capital Expenditures

On March 5, 2018, Aqua assumed its role as receiver for NHSC. Since the fifth status report, filed by Aqua on May 7, 2019, Aqua has made the following improvements to the NHSC system:

- i. Aeration Tank. Pumped out and pressure washed aeration tank. Replaced cross member supports of aeration tanks. Installed new air piping and brackets. Cleaned around the front tanks and filled voids under the tanks with flowable fill and graded the area.
- Equalization Tank. Repaired a hole in the bottom of the equalization tank.Pressure washed equalization tank and recoated the inside of the tank.Measured for new handrail around equalization tank.
- iii. Removed existing wood stairs and measured for new aluminum steps and platform.

There were no Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") violations since the fifth status report from May 7, 2019.

As Aqua continues to operate the system to ensure compliance with the PUC's February 9 Order, Aqua will make improvements necessary to provide quality and reliable service. Aqua will have further information on operational issues in later reports.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>Pa. P.U.C. v. North Heidelberg Sewer Co.</u>, Docket No. M-2018-2645983, Opinion and Order Appendix A Paragraph 1.o. (Feb. 9, 2018).

## 2. Financial

In Aqua's fifth status report to the Commission, Aqua submitted trial balances for NHSC for year-end 2017 and a balance sheet and income statement for NHSC as of March 5, 2018 which was the beginning of Aqua's receivership.

# C. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

Aqua will continue to investigate the system's operations and financial status, and will make necessary improvements to operate NHSC to ensure quality service to the NHSC customers for the period of its receivership duties during the 529 proceeding. Aqua will provide its next status report on or before November 4, 2019.