

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17105-3265**

**In re: The Indian Springs Water
Company**

**PUBLIC MEETING: August 8, 2019
3011972-TUS**

Docket No. M-2019-3011972


STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER ANDREW G. PLACE

Before us is a recommendation initiating a Section 529 proceeding for Indian Springs Water Company and for appointing Pennsylvania American Water Company as receiver. I share many of the procedural concerns that have been expressed by Vice Chairman Sweet in declaring a Section 529 receivership for this small water utility.

I am particularly troubled that this water utility's violations of Department of Environmental Protection regulations and directives have been known to our agency since February 2019. Such violations, including a still ongoing "Do Not Consume" warning, not only constitute a clear threat to public health and safety but also implicate this Commission's statutory responsibilities that a regulated public utility provide adequate, reliable and safe services under Section 1501 of the Public Utility Code. The rationale that Indian Springs may have been or is engaged in transfer of control negotiations did not obviate the Commission's obligations for timely and decisive exercise of these statutory responsibilities.

For the necessary, but tardy, protection of human health I will be supporting the resolution of this matter, but I will be concurring in result only as it is procedurally troubling.

Dated: August 8, 2019

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew G. Place", is written over a horizontal line.

Andrew G. Place
Commissioner