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March 15, 2024

DATE OF DEPOSIT

MAR 1 5 2024

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

SECRETARY'S BUREAU

## VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Secretary of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Docket No.: M-2016-2543193

To whom it may be concerned:

Please be advised of the representation of the Borough of Big Beaver by the law firm of Santicola, Steele & Fedeles, P.C. In my capacity as the Borough's Solicitor, I have been instructed to submit the following comments. On February 1, 2024, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (the "Commission") voted to issue a Tentative Supplemental Implementation Order that proposes revisions to the Commission's existing procedures and guidelines for Section 1329 acquisitions. In response to this order, the Borough of Big Beaver ("Big Beaver") desires to submit the following comments to the Commission in connection with the pending sale by the City of Beaver Falls ("City") of the City's wastewater treatment plant and collection system (the "System") to Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc. ("Aqua").

Since 2021, the City has been engaged in the process of selling the System to Aqua. In connection with the City's sale of the System to Aqua, the City and Aqua entered into an Asset Purchase Agreement dated October 20, 2021 (the "Asset Purchase Agreement").

Big Beaver is a municipality located in Beaver County that transmits wastewater to the City's wastewater treatment plant for treatment. In connection with the City's sale of the System to Aqua, Big Beaver and Aqua entered into a Wastewater Service Agreement dated December 19, 2023 (the "Treatment Agreement"). Big Beaver and Aqua spent a significant amount of time, effort and resources negotiating and finalizing the Treatment Agreement and Big Beaver believes that this agreement is beneficial to Big Beaver and its residents.

As the City has expended a significant amount of time, effort and resources in connection with the sale of the System, which has been in process since 2021; and Big Beaver has spent considerable time, effort and resources negotiating and finalizing the Treatment Agreement, Big Beaver requests and strongly encourages the Commission to recognize and honor the Asset Purchase Agreement and the Treatment Agreement and not to disturb these agreements.

Sincerely,

Shannon L. Steele, Esquire Solicitor- Borough of Big Beaver

