



April 11, 2018

**VIA E-FILING**

**Jonathan P. Nase**

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Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor – Filing Room  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

**Re: TANYA J. MCCLOSKEY, ACTING CONSUMER ADVOCATE V. HIDDEN VALLEY  
UTILITY SERVICES, L.P. – WATER, DOCKET NO. C-2014-2447138**

**TANYA J. MCCLOSKEY, ACTING CONSUMER ADVOCATE V. HIDDEN VALLEY  
UTILITY SERVICES, L.P. – WASTEWATER, DOCKET NO. C-2014-2447169**

**HIDDEN VALLEY UTILITY SERVICES, L.P. STATUS REPORT OF MARCH 19, 2018**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed for re-filing with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) is the March 19, 2018 Status Report of Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., which is required by Ordering Paragraph No. 17 of the Commission’s Order entered January 18, 2018 in the above-referenced matters. As you can see, Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., attempted to file this document previously, but the wrong docket numbers were listed on the filing. This status report is being re-filed, in its original form, to ensure that it is included in the record in these proceedings.

A copy of this document has been served in accordance with the attached Certificate of Service. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this filing. Thank you.

Sincerely,

COZEN O'CONNOR

By: Jonathan P. Nase

Counsel for *Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P.*

JPN:kmg

Enclosures

cc: Per Certificate of Service

Paul T. Diskin, Director, Bureau of Technical Utility Services

James Kettler

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Tanya J. McCloskey, Acting Consumer Advocate	:	
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P. – Water	:	
	:	
and	:	Docket No. C-2014-2447169
	:	
Tanya J. McCloskey, Acting Consumer Advocate	:	
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P. – Wastewater	:	

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing March 19, 2018 Status Report upon the parties, listed below, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a party).

**VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL:**

Christine Maloni Hoover, Esq.  
Erin L. Gannon, Esq.  
Lauren M. Burge, Esq.  
Office of Consumer Advocate  
555 Walnut Street  
Forum Place, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923  
Counsel for *Office of Consumer Advocate*

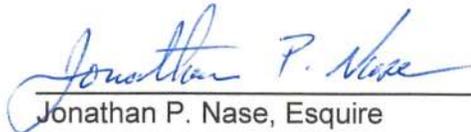
Robert J. Kollar, CPA and  
Kellie A. Kuhleman  
1374 Langport Dr.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15241

Paige MacDonald-Matthes, Esq.  
Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel  
200 Locust Street, Suite 400  
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1508  
Counsel for *Hidden Valley Foundation, Inc.*

Hon. Jeffrey A. Watson  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Piatt Place, Suite 220  
301 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Edward G. Lanza, Esq.  
P.O. Box 61336  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-1336  
Counsel for *Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P.*

DATED: April 11, 2017

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jonathan P. Nase, Esquire  
Counsel for *Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P.*

Hidden Valley Utility Services, LP.  
811 Russell Ave., Suite 302  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879

March 19, 2018

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
P.O. Box 3265  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-3265

*With copies via regular first class mail and e-mail*

Christine Maloni Hoover, Esquire – Senior Assistant Consumer Advocate  
Erin L. Gannon, Esquire – Senior Assistant Consumer Advocate  
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Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
P.O. Box 3265  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-3265

Ed Lanza  
The Lanza Firm, LLC  
P.O. Box 61336  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17106-1336

**RE: Docket No. C-2014-244138 (Water) and C-2014-244169 (Wastewater)  
60 Day Status Report – Per Order #17 of the Opinion and Order of the Commission  
dated January 18, 2018**

This status report follows the Commission Order beginning on page 60 of the “Opinion and Order of the Commission” dated January 18, 2018. Items 1-4 are statements and therefore have no status report.

*I. That the Exceptions of the Office of Consumer Advocate filed on September 29, 2016, are granted, in part, and denied in part, consistent with this Opinion and Order.*

2. *That the Exceptions of Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P. filed on September 29, 2016, are granted, in part, and denied in part, consistent with this Opinion and Order.*

3. *That the Exceptions of Intervenors, Robert J. Kollar and Kellie A. Kuhleman, filed on September 29, 2016, are granted, in part, and denied, in part consistent with this Opinion and Order.*

4. *That the Initial Decision of Administrative Law Judge Jeffrey A. Watson issued on September 9, 2016, is adopted, as modified, consistent with this Opinion and Order.*

5. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P. shall comply with the unresolved issues of the 2005 Settlement Agreement which was approved by the Commission Order entered on July 15, 2005 at Docket Nos. A-00210117 and A-00230101, as follows:*

a. *Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall replace 1,500 feet of 3-inch line to the "Heights" neighborhood, as well as 1,000 feet of 2-inch line to the "Valley View" neighborhood in Hidden Valley, which was required to be completed by July 2015, on or before June 30, 2018.*

**Status:** 1,800 lineal feet of 6 inch water line was installed to the "Heights" community. HVUS then installed an additional 2,400 lineal feet to the "Valley View" community. The original line extension designs created "dead end" lines for each community. "Dead end" lines are problematic with the low flows in the system. The line to Valley View was constructed to loop from the Heights, and therefore eliminated 2 dead ends in the water system. The Valley View line extension, which was originally designed as a 1,000 foot "dead end" extension, was built as a 2,400 foot line designed and constructed as a loop in the water system.

b. *Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall, in coordination with the Hidden Valley Foundation, Inc., schedule and conduct semi-annual customer meetings, to be held at least every six months, with the first meeting to be held on or before June 30, 2018. The customer meetings shall continue until the completion of the requirements under Ordering Paragraph No. 27.*

**Status:** HVUS has requested a meeting date with the Hidden Valley Foundation, Inc. We are awaiting a response.

6. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall obtain and file with the Commission a written report from an independent or third-party Pennsylvania licensed water and wastewater engineer concerning the adequacy of its water distribution system and water source; and said report shall contain recommendations and a cost analysis to correct any found deficiencies including a remedy to eliminate the rust or brown-colored water provided to customers in order to ensure that customers shall receive adequate service from the improved water facilities, and with said report, to include an evaluation and proposed remedy to reassess the need, size and cost of the treatment plant to permanently solve the problems caused by iron and manganese, as well as alternative sources of water supply such as the Quemahoning River, within ninety (90) days from the date of entry of this Opinion and Order in this proceeding. In addition to estimating costs, the study will include an implementation schedule for completion of the design, repairs or improvements, obtaining permits, obtaining bids, awarding contracts, and completion of construction/start of operation. Additionally, the engineering report will include a schedule to replace and/or test customer meters in accordance with Section 65.8(b) that results in compliance by April 30, 2019. Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., will implement the replacement and testing schedule.*

**Status:** HVUS has engaged a licensed engineer to conduct the study as requested. A report on iron treatment and other water source options has been done. The engineers are updating the cost analysis of each option and will create appropriate timelines. The engineers will also have to analyze operational cost associated with the options, so we can understand the impact of any rate increase on the customer for the additional cost associated with iron mitigation.

7. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall provide a copy of the engineer's report and any amendments or supplements thereto, to the Office of Consumer Advocate and to the Commission's Bureau of Technical Utility Services, in writing, not later than fourteen (14) days from the date of the expert report and each amendment or supplement thereto.*

**Status:** The report will be furnished upon completion.

8. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall comply with all recommendations from the engineer in order to correct any identified deficiencies including a remedy to eliminate the rust or brown-colored water provided to customers in order to ensure that customers shall receive adequate service from the improved water facilities, and to reassess the need, size and cost of treatment plant to permanently solve the problems caused by iron and manganese, within one (1) year from the date of the engineer's report.*

**Status:** HVUS will wait for the engineers report per #6 above.

9. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall obtain and file with the Commission a written report from an independent or third-party Pennsylvania licensed water and wastewater engineer concerning the adequacy of its wastewater system; and the report shall contain recommendations and a cost analysis to identify whether or not the pumping stations are equipped and operating properly, whether an adequate and appropriate type and number of pumps and alarms are being utilized and maintained in operating conditions, and identify any deficiencies, repairs, maintenance, replacements or improvements and recommendations to ensure that reasonable and adequate wastewater services are being provided to its customers. The engineer shall inspect all wastewater facilities, tanks and equipment and prepare a report of its findings. The report shall confirm that the wastewater treatment plant and equipment is installed, properly maintained and operable. If this is not the case, then the engineer shall include a schedule for making all repairs, replacements and/or maintenance and to correct any found deficiencies recommend any maintenance or improvements in the report. The report shall include a survey of the lagoon at Treatment Plant No. 2 to estimate the current capacity and provide a timeframe for removal of sediment. The report shall also confirm the draining, inspection, repair, and repainting of Tank 1 (side 1). The report shall also include an evaluation and proposed remedy to ensure that Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., is providing adequate and reasonable wastewater services to its customers. Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall obtain said report within ninety (90) days from the date of entry of this Opinion and Order.*

**Status:** HVUS has engaged a licensed engineer to conduct the study as requested. The lagoon at Treatment plant #2 has been drained and analyzed for capacity. This information will be included in the engineers report.

10. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall provide a copy of the engineer's report regarding wastewater services and any amendments or supplements thereto, to the Office of Consumer Advocate and to the Commission's Bureau of Technical Utility Services, in writing, not later than fourteen (14) days from the date of the expert report and each amendment or supplement thereto.*

**Status :** HVUS will provide the report upon completion.

11. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall comply with all recommendations from the engineer with regard to wastewater services in order to ensure that customers shall receive adequate and reasonable wastewater service, on or before January 31, 2019.*

**Status:** HVUS will set a schedule and respond to the recommendations when the report is provided.

12. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall modify its billing practices to ensure that all customer bills are fully compliant with all Commission rules, regulations and orders, within ninety (90) days of the date of entry of this Opinion and Order. Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall seek input from the Office of Consumer Advocate pertaining to the modification of its billing practices within sixty (60) days of the date of entry of this Opinion and Order.*

**Status:** A new invoice format, attached hereto, has been created by our billing company for review and comment by the OCA. A copy with a cover letter was sent on March 15, 2018 to the OCA, for review and comment.

**RETURN THIS PORTION WITH PAYMENT  
AND MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**

Hidden Valley Utility Services, LP  
% Laurel Management Company  
111 Roosevelt Boulevard  
Johnstown, PA 15906

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR BILL:	WATER	SEWER
Quarterly Customer Service Charge	\$12	\$17
Quarterly Billing - First 30,000 Gal.	\$0.697/100Gal	\$1.56/100Gal
Quarterly Billing - Over 30,000 Gal.	\$0.575/100Gal	\$1.352/100Gal

Monthly penalty added on payments received after due date is 1 1/2%  
**\$40 CHARGE FOR RETURNED CHECKS**

**HIDDEN VALLEY UTILITY SERVICES, LP**  
Billing questions (814) 443-0825  
Emergency (877) 523-8181

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR BILL:**

If you wish to review the current rate schedule, find out how to verify the accuracy of your bill, or get an explanation of the various charges on your bill, a copy of our current tariff is available for your inspection at 1 Craighead Drive, Hidden Valley, PA 15902.

Setting hot water heaters to a temperature less than 140 degrees may reduce the settling of iron and manganese, to reduce tea-colored water problems.

HIDDEN VALLEY UTILITY SERVICES, LP  
CO LAUREL MANAGEMENT CO  
111 ROOSEVELT BLVD  
JOHNSTOWN, PA 15906-2735

HIDDEN VALLEY UTILITY SERVICES, LP  
CO LAUREL MANAGEMENT CO  
111 ROOSEVELT BLVD  
JOHNSTOWN, PA 15906-2735  
TEMP RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

First Class Mail  
US Postage Paid  
Johnstown PA  
Permit No. 217

Service	311 LAKE ROAD	
Account	From	To
OHV311	A	12/18/2017 03/05/2018
Previous	Current	Usage
334500	338100	3600
Balance		
Previous Balance	198.15	
Payments	0.00	
Penalty	0.00	
Sewer Service	74.16	
Water	33.09	

Return this portion with your remittance.  
Keep this portion for your records.

Pay Before 03/20/18 303.40

\*\*\*FINAL BILL\*\*\*

Account Number	0
OHV311	
Service Address	
311 LAKE ROAD	
Amount Due	Due Date
303.40	3/20/2018

BRETT & ROSARIO MERCHANT  
5 RIDGE HEIGHTS CT  
GAITHERSBURG MD 20879

13. *That a copy of the revised bill form shall be submitted to the Commission within ninety (90) days of the date of entry of this Opinion and Order for review by the Commission's Bureau of Consumer Services and Technical Utility Services for compliance.*

**Status:** HVUS will provide the bill form as soon as comments are received by the OCA.

14. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall file correct information in its annual reports to the Commission and shall amend any prior reports that contain inaccurate or incorrect information within 180 days of the date of the final Commission Order entered in this proceeding. Any requests for extensions to file any such reports or amendments or modifications of said reports shall be filed with the Commission in writing, with a copy to be provided to the Office of Consumer Advocate at the time of filing.*

**Status:** HVUS is working with a consultant on corrected annual reports to the Commission. HVUS expects to submit the revised reports within the 180 day timeframe.

15. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall pay all electric and telephone bills in a timely manner to ensure adequate and reasonable service to its customers. Additionally, Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall execute appropriate authorization forms permitting its electric provider, Pennsylvania Electric Company, to continue providing monthly billing and payment information for all Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., accounts to the Office of Consumer Advocate until the requirements under Ordering Paragraph No. 27 are satisfied. Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall also provide an annual update of telephone service numbers which includes copies of bills for telephone service so that customers are able to reliably contact Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P.*

**Status:** All electric and telephone bill have been, and are being, paid in a timely manner. Authorization forms have not been provided at this time, as HVUS has a request into the Commission for reconsideration on this matter.

16. *That consistent with the terms of this Opinion and Order, Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall comply in all other respects with its tariff filed with the Commission, as well as all laws, rules, regulations and orders of the Commission, as they relate to providing adequate and reasonable water and wastewater services to its customers. Any modifications in the practices of Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., in order to comply with this provision shall be implemented within ninety days of entry of this Opinion and Order.*

**Status:** Hidden Valley is of the opinion that it is operating within the terms of the Tariff filed with the Commission as well as all the laws and regulations of the commission, except for those

items as identified in the Opinion and Order. Those items as identified in the Opinion and Order are being worked on as identified in the attached responses. When the two engineering reports being conducted are complete, any identified deficiencies will be addressed in a timely manner.

17. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall file detailed status reports with the Commission every sixty days and provide copies to the Office of Consumer Advocate and to the Commission's Bureau of Technical Utility Services, in writing, at the time of filing, with regard to the compliance and progress as set forth in this decision and order and identifying any matters not fully completed and the reasons therefore, with the first progress report to be filed not later than sixty (60) days from the date of entry of this Opinion and Order.*

**Status:** This response is the first status report as required in this paragraph.

18. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall cease and desist from further violations of the Public Utility Code or any of the Orders, Rules or Regulations of this Commission.*

**Status:** Except for this Opinion and Order, there are no outstanding violations of the PUC code that HVUS is aware of. However, HVUS will engage the engineers to also review our operations related to the PUC code and any Orders, Rules or Regulations in order to analyze and define any areas that need attention in this regard. HVUS will also have the engineers review our operations and procedures with regard to DEP regulations.

19. *That on or before January 31, 2019, or as soon as all repairs, modifications and improvements have been made, as ordered herein, Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall file a final detailed status report with the Secretary of the Commission, along with a verification from its engineer outlining the details of what has and has not been completed, and provide copies to the Office of Consumer Advocate and to the Commission's Bureau of Technical Utility Services, in writing, at the time of filing, identifying in detail the extent of compliance and any incomplete matters as ordered herein. If any matters ordered herein have not been completed, Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., and its engineer shall state in said report, in detail, the reasons for the same.*

**Status ;** HVUS will file a final status report at the appropriate time.

20. *That on or before March 31, 2019, or within sixty (60) days after receipt of a written report of all completed rehabilitative measures from Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P. and its engineer, the Office of Consumer Advocate shall investigate the quality of the water as well as of the water and wastewater services being received by Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P.'s customers or*

*request that this matter be referred to the Bureau of Technical Utility Services. If the recommended repairs, modifications, rehabilitative and maintenance procedures have not been accomplished within the time frame structured herein, or if the water quality as reported by the Office of Consumer Advocate or the Bureau of Technical Utility Services is not adequate and reasonable, an evidentiary hearing shall forthwith be scheduled by the Office of Administrative Law Judge for purposes of addressing one or more of the following issues: the adequacy of the water system, the adequacy of the wastewater system, the quality of the water, the appropriateness of penalties to be imposed against Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., the appropriateness of ratepayer refunds, and any other issue relative to these ordering paragraphs. The burden of proof in the evidentiary hearing as to these issues shall be upon Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P. The Commission shall retain jurisdiction for that purpose.*

**Status:** No action at this time.

21. *That in the event an evidentiary hearing is required under Ordering Paragraph No. 20, the Commission shall initiate a separate proceeding pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. § 529 (relating to directing a competent utility to operate or acquire a small sewer utility that has jeopardized public safety by failing to provide reasonable and adequate service). To the extent possible, the separate proceeding pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. § 529 shall be a bifurcated proceeding with the hearing required under Ordering Paragraph No. 20.*

**Status:** No action at this time.

22. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall take and record a pressure survey in compliance with 52 Pa. Code § 65.6(d) before the end of 2018 and at least once per year going forward. If the pressure surveys show that customers are receiving inadequate water pressure, Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall install booster pumping stations to provide water at adequate water pressures to the affected customers.*

**Status:** HVUS continues to take pressure surveys are required by the PUC. At this time we have not identified any low pressure problems, but will review our survey with the engineers for another review of the information.

22. *That until a permanent solution to the iron and manganese problem is in place, Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall have a spare pump and motor available for Well No. 1 within seventy-two (72) hours of the primary pump and motor becoming inoperable.*

**Status:** HVUS has confirmed with our supplier that pumps and motors necessary for well #1 can be available within 72 hours of notice.

23. *That after the engineering report is submitted, pursuant to Ordering Paragraph No. 6, if the chosen means to address iron and manganese is treatment of water from Well No. 1 and Well No. 2, Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall install instrumentation to control the on/off cycle of Well No. 2.*

**Status:** No action at this time.

24. *That Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., shall maintain an operable, installed second high lift pump.*

**Status:** The second high lift pump is installed and operational.

25. *That in the event Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., fails to comply with any of the time deadlines directed in these Ordering Paragraphs, the Office of Consumer Advocate shall notify the Secretary of the Commission and the Director of the Commission's Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement within thirty days of the missed deadline.*

**Status:** HVUS is in compliance with deadlines as identified in the Opinion and Order.

26. *That in the event a Notice as set forth in Ordering Paragraph No. 25 is received by the Commission, a separate proceeding shall be initiated pursuant to 66 Pa. C.S. § 529 (relating to directing a competent utility to operate or acquire a small sewer utility that has jeopardized public safety by failing to provide reasonable and adequate service).*

**Status:** No action at this time.

27. *That upon completion of the terms set forth in this decision and order, and the filing of a status report by Hidden Valley Utility Services, L.P., and its engineer, and a report from Office of Consumer Advocate or the Commission's Bureau of Technical Utility Services, evidencing that all the requirements set forth herein have been completed, the proceeding docketed at C-2014-2447138 and C-2014-2447169 shall be marked closed.*

**Status:** No action at this time.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need for clarification of the responses.  
Sincerely,

James M. Kettler  
President  
Hidden Valley Utility Services, LP  
Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania