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August 6, 2018

Via Electronic Filing

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
400 North Street, 2nd 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 1o 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 1o of Appendix A, we are submitting, via electronic filing with this letter, Aqua’s Second Status Report dated August 6, 2018. We are also filing the Second 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 (w/encl.)
Carrie Wright, Prosecutor (w/encl.)
Christine Maloni Hoover, Senior Assistant Consumer Advocate (w/encl.)
Elizabeth Triscari, Assistant Small Business Advocate (w/encl.)
Sean Cooper, Esq. (w/encl.)
Tori L. Giesler, Esq. (w/encl.)
Susan Simms Marsh, Esq. (w/encl.)
John D. Hollenbach (w/encl.)
Alexander R. Stahl, Esq. (w/encl.)



**SECOND 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 6, 2018

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.”¹

Aqua submitted its initial status report on the operations of NHSC as directed by the Commission on May 4, 2018. Aqua now submits its second status report on the operations of NHSC to the Commission.

B. SECOND STATUS REPORT

1. Operations and Capital Expenditures

On March 5, 2018, Aqua assumed its role as receiver for NHSC. Since the initial status report, filed by Aqua on May 4, 2018, Aqua has completed the following improvements to the system:

- i. Pump Station No. 0 (Ski Slope Pump Station): Aqua cleaned and inspected the wet well. A new pump was installed at the pump station with the corresponding electrical work to accommodate the new pump insofar as only one pump existed at the time that Aqua assumed receiver responsibilities. This provided for system reliability. Aqua also installed new stairs and decking for access to the control and electrical panels. Aqua also installed a new auto-dialer system at the pump station.
- ii. Pump Station No. 1 (Golf Course Pump Station): Aqua cleaned and inspected the wet well. Aqua installed four new floats which replaced worn floats which turn the pump on and off, and calls out the high-level emergency alarm. Aqua also installed a new auto-dialer system at the pump station. The Company has determined that this station will also need a new pump and will be ordering a replacement pump.
- iii. Pump Station No. 2 (Walnut Drive Pump Station): Aqua removed the structure over the pump station which had created a confined space issue. A pump was replaced at the pump station with the corresponding electrical work to accommodate the new pump thus maintaining system reliability. Aqua installed a new auto-dialer at the pump station.

¹ Pa. P.U.C. v. North Heidelberg Sewer Co., Docket No. M-2018-2645983, Opinion and Order Appendix A Paragraph 1.o. (Feb. 9, 2018).

- iv. Wastewater Treatment Plant: Aqua installed new fine bubble diffusers in the two treatment trains and new stainless-steel coarse bubble diffusers in the equalization tanks. Aqua also relocated the inlet filters for the equalization aeration blowers to inside the main building. Aqua replaced the 6" clarifier discharge line, as the existing line was broken and leaking. The Company installed a new multi-channel dialer at the plant. Finally, the Company installed a new catwalk over the clarification tank, and new safety guardrails on all tanks.

On July 31, 2018, EEMA O&M Services Group ("EEMA"), during a routine pump station inspection of the system, reported a sanitary sewer overflow ("SSO") at Pump Station No. 1. The SSO was estimated at approximately 50-100 gallons. The alarm system at the pump station did not call during the overflow event, and has been subsequently repaired. Pelletized lime was applied to the area of the overflow. A copy of the incident report to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") is included here as **Attachment A**.

On August 4, 2018, the system experienced a high wet weather event and the Company is currently discussing the event with the DEP. No official report has been requested or filed as of the date of this status report.

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

2. Financial

Aqua is continuing to work with the contract accountant to bring the books of NHSC current and receive a trial balance for calendar year end 2017. Aqua expects to have the books current and a trial balance in the upcoming weeks. Aqua will provide further updates in subsequent reports.

C. CONCLUSION

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 5, 2018.



SEWAGE COMPLIANCE INSPECTION REPORT

NPDES / WQM Permit No. PA0033766	Mo/Day/Year 7/31/2018	Entry Time 11:00	Exit Time 11:30	Inspection Type INCDT	eFACTS Inspection ID 2758363
Facility Name: North Heidelberg Sewer Company			Permittee Name:		
Physical Location/Directions: WWTP off Koenig Road (Dirt road adjacent to property at 223 Koenig Road					Permit Expiration Date: 4/30/2014
Municipality: Jefferson Township		County: Berks		Permit Renewal Application Due: pending	
Facility Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal <input type="checkbox"/> Major <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Municipal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor		Treatment Process: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ext Aeration <input type="checkbox"/> Contact Stabilization <input type="checkbox"/> SBR <input type="checkbox"/> RBC <input type="checkbox"/> MBR <input type="checkbox"/> MBBR/IFAS <input type="checkbox"/> Trickling Filter <input type="checkbox"/> Lagoon <input type="checkbox"/> Other:			
Design Flow: MGD					
Responsible Official: Aqua America		Does the facility have an Operator in Responsible Charge: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Title: Reciever		Operator Name: Mr. Jeffrey Grassley			
Permittee Address: 762 W. Lancaster Avenue Bryn Mawr, PA 19010		Circuit Rider: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
		Client ID: 197254 License Expiration Date: 3/31/2020			
		Class-Subclass(es): A,1			
		Operator properly certified for treatment process type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Business Phone:		Business Phone: 215-910-2519			
Cell Phone:		Cell Phone:			
Email:		Email: jgrassley@comcast.net			
24-Hour Emergency Contact Person / Phone / Email: Mr. Jeffrey Grassley					
VIOLATIONS*		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> None Identified During Inspection <input type="checkbox"/> Pending Sample Results			
Discharge of raw or untreated sewage from the North Heidelberg Township collection system to the surface of the ground is a violation of PA Clean Streams Law, Sections 201 & 202					
Recommendations: I recommend applying hydrated lime to the site of a SSO and limiting public access to the area.					
Person Interviewed:		Date:		Inspector: Kevin Buss Date: 7/31/18	
Signature:		Phone No.:		Inspector Signature: Phone No.: 610-916-0132	
Title:		Title: Water Quality Specialist			
Email:		Email: kbuss@pa.gov			
This document is official notification that a representative of the Department of Environmental Protection inspected the above facility. The findings of this inspection are shown above and on any attached pages. * Any violations which were noted during the inspection are indicated. Violations may also be discovered upon examination of the results of laboratory analyses of the discharge and/or review of Department records.					



SEWAGE COMPLIANCE INSPECTION REPORT

Comments

Unaccompanied incident inspection was conducted today. Mr. Jeff Grassley reported an SSO at PS 1, near the intersection of Christmas Village RD and Koenig RD on the golf course, by phone on 7/28/2018 at 09:43, estimated volume 50-100 gallons.

I checked the pump station and did not observed any sewage solids in the area.

I check the manhole behind the influent EQ tanks, outside the plant fence. No apparent sewage solids were observed.

WWTP appears to be operating normally. Plant logs were observed. A contractor is onsite servicing the UV system.

I spoke to Mr. Grassley on the phone after the inspection. He reports that since the incident, the alarm system on the golf course pumping station has been repaired. Alarm did not call out during the overflow event. Overflow was discovered during routine pump station checks. Pelletized lime was applied to the area of the overflow.