

# Felton Borough

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Felton, Pa 17322

December 17, 2019

Secretary, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
400 North Street, 2nd Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Application of The York Water Company - Wastewater for approval of the acquisition of the wastewater system assets owned by Felton Borough at Docket No. A-2019-3013113

Dear Secretary Chiavetta,

Felton Borough is aware of The York Water Company's recent filing at Docket No. A-2019-3013113 for approval of York Water's acquisition of the Borough's wastewater system assets. The Borough supports the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission certifying York Water's wastewater service territory expansion to include the entire Borough of Felton.

Over twenty years ago, the residents and elected officials of Felton Borough identified a concern in our small, rural community. With small lot sizes and no public water supply, residents' groundwater wells were in jeopardy of contamination from adjacent and up-gradient onlot septic systems. As described in the 1998 Act 537 Plan, the topography and soil characteristics within Felton Borough allow onlot, uncontained septage to migrate. In 1998, there were only seven of the 167 developed parcels with holding tanks, while the remaining parcels were served with onlot drainfields and rudimentary mounds. In spite of constructing a multimillion dollar treatment plant and collection system, the conditions did not change for those who were not connected to the public treatment works, and the risk of

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contamination persisted. In 2007, the Borough conducted a special study to establish an onlot sewage management program to further mitigate the risk of contamination, though that has not changed the physical conditions in the Borough. As has occurred in the past, Borough Council expects that residents will encounter onlot sewage problems and will seek access to a public wastewater system.

The most effective tool to eliminate the potential contamination of groundwater wells from onlot septage migration is connection to public treatment works. If the Borough had access to sufficient resources, the Borough would have extended public sewer beyond the current system and, as demand rose, increased treatment capacity at the treatment plant. However, as a small borough with a small population, Felton Borough simply does not have those resources, which is why we decided to work with York Water and sell our system to a regulated public utility with the resources and technical skills to address the entire Borough's wastewater needs.

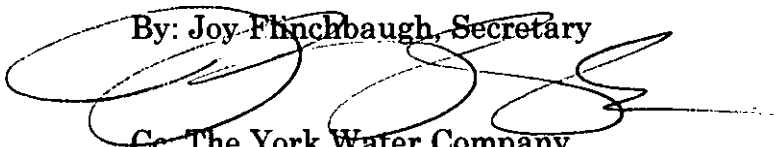
If one of our resident's existing onlot septic system fails, that resident should have a readily available option to connect to York Water's wastewater system in accordance with the provisions of York Water's wastewater tariff. However, if York Water's service territory expansion is limited to only a portion of Felton Borough, any Borough resident located outside that territory whose onlot septic system fails would have no alternative unless and until the Commission approves another expansion of York Water's wastewater service territory. Given the benefits of public sewer, especially with the Borough's topography and soil characteristics, Felton Borough strongly believes that it is in the best interest of all of its residents that they have the potential option of public sewer. For these reasons, Felton Borough supports expanding York Water's wastewater territory to include all of the Borough.

At December 9, 2019 Borough Council meeting, there was a motion, second, and unanimous vote in support of issuing this letter and providing our support of York Water Company's Application to allow it to acquire the

Felton Borough Wastewater System and become certificated throughout the entire Borough. In addition to full Council support, the Mayor was also in favor. If there is further information that you need from Felton Borough or if we can do anything else to support the Application of the York Water Company, please let us know. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Felton Borough

By: Joy Finchbaugh, Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Joy Finchbaugh', is written over the typed name. The signature is somewhat stylized and overlaps the text.

Cc: The York Water Company  
CGA Law Firm, Solicitor

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