

#### **VIA E-FILING**

September 1, 2020

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street Harrisburg, PA 17120

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RE: Comments of Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc.

Amended Policy Statement on Diversity at Major Jurisdictional Utilities

Docket No. M-2020-3018089

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed please find the Comments of Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission's ("PUC" or the "Commission") May 21, 2020 Proposed Policy Statement and Order regarding the Commission's Diversity Policy Statement.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at 610-645-1130.

Sincerely,

Alexander R. Stahl Regulatory Counsel

**Enclosure** 

# BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Amended Policy State Major Jurisdictional U	ement on Diversity at Itilities	: :	Docket No. M-2020-3018089
	Con	nment	s of
	Aqua Pen		

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Amended Policy Statement on Diversity at

Docket No. M-2020-3018089

Major Jurisdictional Utilities

COMMENTS OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

May 21, 2020 PROPOSED POLICY STATEMENT ORDER

I. **INTRODUCTION** 

Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. ("Aqua" or the "Company") appreciates the opportunity to

comment on the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission's ("PUC" or the "Commission")

Proposed Policy Statement and Order entered May 21, 2020 in Docket No. M-2020-3018089

("Proposed Order"), regarding the Commission's proposal to update the existing policy statement.

At the Commission's February 6, 2020 public meeting, the Commission directed the Law

Bureau to prepare an amended policy statement in 52 Pa. Code §§ 69.801-69.809.<sup>1</sup> The

Commission issued its Proposed Policy Statement and Order on May 21, 2020, seeking comment

from interested parties.

Aqua serves approximately 443,000 water customers in Pennsylvania. Aqua's water

systems include approximately 5,800 miles of main. Aqua's wastewater subsidiary, Aqua

Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc., serves approximately 38,000 connections in Pennsylvania.

Agua's water and wastewater systems serve both rural and urban areas.

Agua commends the Commission for their continued initiatives to make improvements to

the Commission's Diversity Policy Statement. It is with this background that Aqua provides the

following suggestions and clarifying comments for the Commission's consideration.

<sup>1</sup> Motion of Chairman Gladys Brown Dutrieuille., Docket No. L-2020-3017284 (Feb. 6, 2020).

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#### II. GENERAL COMMENT

The Company supports the Commission's proposal to update the Diversity Policy Statement. The Company notes that while Attachment A to the Proposed Order stated that it was modeled after the Security and Exchange Commission's ("SEC") Diversity Assessment Report for Entities Regulated by the SEC<sup>2</sup>, there are differences between the demographic groups included in the SEC's Diversity Assessment Report and the Commission's Attachment A. Since the SEC's Diversity Assessment Report for Entities Regulated by the SEC is based<sup>3</sup> on the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's ("EEOC") EEO-1 Report<sup>4</sup>, the Company proposes that the Commission's reporting structure match that of the SEC and EEOC as many companies are already required to report under these same requirements. This would allow for consistent reporting under the same demographic groups without having to have separate reporting to different regulatory agencies. The Company recognizes that in amending the demographic categories, the definition section of the Policy Statement would have to be likewise updated to reflect the definitions used by the EEOC.<sup>5</sup>

The Company supports updating the Diversity Policy Statement and will continue to work with the Commission on improvements to its Policy Statement.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> SEC Diversity Assessment Report for Entities Regulated by the SEC, <a href="https://www.sec.gov/files/OMWI-DAR-FORM.pdf">https://www.sec.gov/files/OMWI-DAR-FORM.pdf</a> (Aug. 25, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Section II, Footnote 2 of the SEC's Diversity Assessment Report for Entities Regulated by the SEC, attached to these comments as Appendix A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Equal Employment Opportunity Commission,

http://www.eeoc.gov/sites/default/files/migrated\_files/employers/eeo1survey/eeo1-2-2.pdf (Aug. 25, 2020). The EEOC's EEO-1 Sample Form is attached as Appendix B to these comments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, EEO-1 Instruction Booklet, <a href="https://www.eeoc.gov/employers/eeo-1-survey/eeo-1-instruction-booklet">https://www.eeoc.gov/employers/eeo-1-survey/eeo-1-instruction-booklet</a> (Aug. 25, 2020).

III. **CONCLUSION** 

Aqua appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Policy Statement and Order

and asks that the Commission consider its comments. Aqua looks forward to continuing to work

with the Commission on these issues. Please direct any questions with regard to these comments

to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander R. Stahl

Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc.

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762 W. Lancaster Avenue

Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 Phone: 610-645-1130

AStahl@AquaAmerica.com

Dated: September 1, 2020

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# APPENDIX A



# Diversity Assessment Report for Entities Regulated by the SEC

### Section II: Diversity Profile of Regulated Entity

## A. Demographic Composition of Workforce<sup>2</sup> (as reported on the most recent EEO-1 Report)

EEO-1 Job Categories	Gender		Race and Ethnicity								
			Hispanic	Not Hispanic or Latino							
	Male (%)	Female (%)	/o/\	White (%)	Black or African American (%)	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (%)	Asian (%)	American Indian or Alaska Native (%)	Two or more races (%)		
Executive/Senior Level Officials and Managers											
First/Mid-Level Officials and Managers											
Professionals											
Technicians											
Administrative Support Workers											
All others											

#### **B. Supplier Diversity by Percentage of Contracting Dollars** (most recent calendar year)

Of the firm's total annual procurement spend with all vendors and suppliers for the period covered by this assessment, please provide the percentage with minority-owned and women-owned businesses compared to the total procurement spend with all vendors and suppliers.

_	TOTAL			Women-	All Other				
	ount (\$)	Hispanic or Latino (%)	Black or African American (%)	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (%)	Asian (%)	American Indian or Alaska Native (%)	Two or more races (%)	Owned Businesses (%)	Businesses (%)

<sup>.</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Section II of the Diversity Assessment Report requests workforce demographic data using the same categories for race and ethnicity that the EEOC adopted for the EEO–1 Report, and are consistent with the minimum standards for maintaining, collecting and presenting data on race and ethnicity prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget. See Revised Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity, 62 FR 5872 (October 30, 1997).

# APPENDIX B

Joint Reporting Committee

**EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY** 

Standard Form 100 REV. 01/2008

 Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Office of Federal
 Contract Compliance Programs (Labor)

### **EMPLOYER INFORMATION REPORT EEO-1**

O.M.B.No. 3048-0007 FORM APPROVAL: www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain 100-214

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