

August 2, 2021

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 Fourteenth Status Report dated August 2, 2021. We are also filing the Fourteenth 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 (via email, w/encl.)
Carrie B. Wright, Prosecutor (via email, w/encl.)
Christine Maloni Hoover, Interim Acting Consumer Advocate (via email, w/encl.)
Erin Fure, Assistant Small Business Advocate (via email, w/encl.)
Sean Cooper, Esq. (via email, w/encl.)
Tori L. Giesler, Esq. (via email, w/encl.)
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John D. Hollenbach (via email, w/encl.)
Alexander R. Stahl, Esq. (via email, w/encl.)



**FOURTEENTH 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 2, 2021

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 directed 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 submitted its second status report to the Commission on August 6, 2018. Aqua submitted its third status report to the Commission on November 5, 2018. Aqua submitted its fourth status report to the Commission on February 3, 2019. Aqua submitted its fifth status report to the Commission on May 7, 2019. Aqua submitted its sixth status report to the Commission on August 5, 2019. Aqua submitted its seventh status report to the Commission on November 4, 2019. Aqua submitted its eighth status report to the Commission on February 3, 2020. Aqua submitted its ninth status report to the Commission on May 4, 2020. Aqua submitted its tenth status report to the Commission on August 3, 2020. Aqua submitted its eleventh status report to the Commission on November 2, 2020. Aqua submitted its twelfth status report to the Commission on February 1, 2021. Aqua submitted its thirteenth status report to the Commission on May 3, 2021. Aqua now submits its fourteenth status report on the operations of NHSC to the Commission.

B. FOURTEENTH STATUS REPORT

1. Operations and Capital Expenditures

On March 5, 2018, Aqua assumed its role as receiver for NHSC. Since the thirteenth status report, filed by Aqua on May 3, 2021, Aqua has made the following improvements to the NHSC system:

- i. Wastewater Treatment Plant: Aqua installed decking on the primary clarifiers and cleaned out the headworks area. Cleaned ultraviolet (“UV”) units and bulbs and sleeves on UV units 1 and 2. Limed stone area around UV tank. Replaced a chemical feed pump and relocated a water line for chemical flushing. Completed safety upgrades. Installed remote flow calculation capability.
- ii. Collection System: Repaired right of way. Switched signal wire to address cycle count issues. Cleaned pump stations.

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).

As Aqua continues to operate the system to ensure compliance with the PUC's February 9 Order, Aqua will make improvements necessary to provide quality and reliable service. Aqua will have further information on operational issues in later reports.

2. Financial

In Aqua's fifth status report to the Commission, filed on May 7, 2019, Aqua submitted trial balances for NHSC for year-end 2017 and a balance sheet and income statement for NHSC as of March 5, 2018 which was the beginning of Aqua's receivership.

3. Acquisition of System

Aqua is in the process of completing a title search of the Berks County records. Aqua will have further updates in subsequent status 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 1, 2021.