PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, *et al*.

 \mathbf{v}_{\bullet}

Public Meeting December 8, 2022 3031672-ALJ Docket Nos. R-2022-3031672, et al.

Pennsylvania-American Water Company

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER JOHN F. COLEMAN, JR.

Before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) for consideration and disposition is the Recommended Decision (RD) in Pennsylvania-American Water Company's (PAWC's) water and wastewater rate increase filing. The RD recommends approval of the Settlement submitted in this proceeding.

The Settlement includes terms related to PAWC's Bill Discount Program. The Bill Discount Program is not new to PAWC, but my attention has been drawn to the eligibility requirements for this low-income assistance program. To the extent costs for PAWC's Bill Discount Program are recovered from ratepayers, proof of income should be required from all program participants. I believe this is necessary to balance the interests of customers who benefit from the program with the interests of customers who pay for the program. I also believe this is consistent with Commission precedent in the area of ratepayer-funded low-income programs.

Date: December 8, 2022

JOHN F. COLEMAN, JR. COMMISSIONER