

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

OFFICE PARTNERS XXIII BLOCK G1 LLC,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
vs.	)	Docket Nos. C-2022-3033251
	)	C-2022-3033266
THE PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER	)	
AUTHORITY,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

**NOTICE TO PLEAD**

To: OFFICE PARTNERS XXII BLOCK G1, LLC

Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 5.102(a), you are hereby notified to file an answer or other responsive pleading to the enclosed Motion for Summary Judgment within twenty (20) days from service hereof.

Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 1.4, all documents must be filed with the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, with a copy served on counsel, and where applicable, the Administrative Law Judge presiding over the issue, or electronically on the Commission's electronic filing system if the document is a qualified document.

Dated: May 26, 2023

*/s/ Ashley L. Buck, Esq.*  
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*The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority*

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

OFFICE PARTNERS XXIII BLOCK G1	)	
LLC,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	Docket Nos. C-2022-3033251
vs.	)	C-2022-3033266
	)	
THE PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER	)	
AUTHORITY,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

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**MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT BY  
THE PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY**

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Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 5.102, The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (the “PWSA”) submits this Motion for Summary Judgment (“Motion”), seeking the dismissal of the Formal Complaints docketed and consolidated at the above-captioned numbers (collectively, the Complaints docketed at the above-captioned numbers are referred to as the “Complaints”).

In support of its Motion, the PWSA states as follows:

The Complainant, Office Partners XXIII Block G1 LLC (“Office Partners”) applied for a permit to tap into the PWSA infrastructure in 2021 (the “Application”), and such application was ultimately approved in December 2021. After a new Tariff took effect on January 13, 2022, Office Partners attempted to withdraw the Application and resubmit a substantially similar application, admittedly seeking to avail itself of the more favorable Tariff rate. The PWSA nevertheless applied the policy that it had consistently applied to previous applicants for tap-in permits, and, thus, charged Office Partners the Tariff rate in effect in December 2021 when the Application was approved.

There is no genuine issue of material fact and, as a matter of law, the PWSA's policy and its application of the same to Office Partners is wholly consistent with the Rules and Regulations approved by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (the "Commission"). Accordingly, Office Partners' request that the PWSA deviate from its consistent treatment of similar applications to provide Officer Partners with a financial benefit at the expense of ratepayers, must, as a matter of law, be denied, and the Complaints should be dismissed, with prejudice.

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

1. Section 5.21(a) of the Commission's Regulations permits the filing of a formal complaint claiming a violation of a statute that the Commission has jurisdiction to administer. 52 Pa. Code § 5.21(a). If, however, a hearing is not necessary, then Section 5.21(d) authorizes the Commission to dismiss such a complaint. 52 Pa. Code § 5.21(d).

2. Section 5.102 of the Commission's Regulations permits any party to move for summary judgment after the pleadings are closed, but within such time so as not to delay a hearing. 52 Pa. Code § 5.102. A motion for summary judgment must be based on the pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, admissions, and supporting affidavits. 52 Pa. Code § 5.102(c). Pursuant to Section 5.1(a)(2), the pleadings in an action before the Commission include the formal complaint, answer, new matter, reply to new matter, and preliminary objections. 52 Pa. Code § 5.1(a)(2). The presiding officer will grant a motion for summary judgment if the pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, admissions, and affidavits show that there is no genuine issue as to a material fact and that the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. 52 Pa. Code § 5.102(d)(1).

3. It is well recognized that an administrative law judge has the discretion to dismiss a complaint on preliminary motion if that dismissal is neither arbitrary nor capricious, and is otherwise in accordance with the law. *Guesman v. Columbia Gas of Pa., Inc.*, Docket No. C-2012-

2326301 (Final Order entered January 4, 2013) (citing *Graham v. Philadelphia Suburban Water Co. and Bell-Atlantic Pa., Inc.*, Docket No. C-00957557 (Order entered June 12, 1996)).

4. Section 5.102(d), which expressly permits dismissal based on summary judgment, serves judicial economy by avoiding a hearing where no factual dispute exists. If no factual issue pertinent to the resolution of a case exists, a hearing is unnecessary. 66 Pa. C.S.A. § 703(a); *Lehigh Valley Power Comm. v. Pa. Pub. Util. Comm'n*, 563 A.2d 557 (Pa. Cmwlth. 1989); *Lehigh Valley Power Comm. v. Pa. Pub. Util. Comm'n*, 563 A.2d 548 (Pa. Cmwlth. 1989); *S.M.E. Bessemer Cement, Inc. v. Pa. Pub. Util. Comm'n.*, 540 A.2d 1006 (Pa. Cmwlth. 1988); *White Oak Borough Auth. v. Pa. Pub. Util. Comm'n.*, 103 A.2d 502 (Pa. Super. 1954).

## **II. FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

5. On or about June 17, 2022, Office Partners filed two identical formal Complaints with the Commission (the “Action”).

6. This Action involves, in short, a fee dispute over tap-in fees relating to new construction in Downtown Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

7. At all relevant times hereto, Office Partners was developing commercial property known as the FNB Financial Center. *See* Complaints, ¶ 3.

8. Office Partners’ construction of the FNB Financial Center requires PWSA approval of an application for the connection to a PWSA sewer main. *See* Complaints, ¶ 5; *see also* 53 Pa.C.S.A. § 5607(d)(24) (among other things, authorizing the PWSA to “charge enumerated fees to property owners who desire to or are required to connect to the authority’s sewer or water system.”).

### **The Applicable Laws, Regulations and Tariffs**

9. 53 Pa.C.S.A. § 5607(d)(24) provides, in relevant part: “Fees ***shall be based upon the duly adopted fee schedule which is in effect at the time of payment and shall be payable at***

*the time of application for connection* or at a time to which the property owner and the authority agree.” (Emphasis added.)

10. Act 65 of 2017 directed the Commission to begin oversight of the PWSA on April 1, 2018.

11. The Commission has exclusive jurisdiction over the rates charged by utilities within its jurisdiction, including the PWSA. *See, e.g.*, 66 Pa.C.S.A. §§ 1301 (requiring rates to be just and reasonable), 1302 (relating to the use of tariffs showing rates), 1303 (mandating adherence to tariffs), 1304 (barring discrimination in rates), & 1312(c) (imposing conditions on suit); *Byer v. The Peoples Natural Gas Co.*, 380 A.2d 383 (Pa. Super. Ct. 1977) (stating that the Commission has “exclusive jurisdiction over the rates charged by public utilities . . . Moreover, the P.U.C.’s jurisdiction over utility rates exists regardless of whether those rates have been established by deed, contract, ordinance or otherwise.”) (citing *Blythe Township Municipal Authority v. Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission*, 185 A.2d 628 (Pa. Super. Ct. 1962)).

12. Per the PWSA’s Developer’s Manual in effect at all relevant times: “All fees are established in the PWSA Water and Wastewater Tariffs and approved by the [Commission],” and the Developer’s Manual further provides that the “PWSA will calculate the appropriate fees based upon the related project information submitted by the applicant.” *See* Complaints, Exhibit A thereto, p. 35.

13. Moreover, the PWSA Developer’s Manual states, at all relevant times, that “[a]fter the final review, PWSA will supply the applicant with a permit fee invoice.” *See* Complaints, Exhibit A thereto, p. 20.

14. The PUC Tariff that forms the basis of this matter was effective March 1, 2019 and is set forth at PUC Docket No. R-2018-3002647 (the “Governing PUC Tariff”), providing the following Tapping Fee:

Collection Fee	\$1,701 Per EDU*
Capacity Fee	\$1,277 Per EDU*
Total Tapping Fee	\$2,978 Per EDU*
	* 300 gpd/EDU.

15. The 2021 PUC Tariff, set forth at PUC Docket No. R-2020-3017970, states that: “No Changes to Part III, Section G, Tapping Fee from Original PUC Tariff;” thus, the 2019 rates in the Governing PUC Tariff continued to apply to all 2021 applications with the PWSA.

16. A new Tariff went into effect on January 13, 2022 (the “2022 PUC Tariff”), which had the effect of eliminating the tap-in fees and changing the PWSA’s overall rate structure. The docket for the Commission’s consideration and approval of the 2022 PUC Tariff (the “Rate Case”) is R-2021-3024779.

**The Submission, Consideration and Approval of the Application in 2021**

17. The evidence of record establishes that the Application, the PWSA’s consideration of the Application, and the PWSA’s ultimate approval of the Application all occurred in 2021, during the effective period of the 2021 PUC Tariff, and, thus, the Governing PUC Tariff.

18. Julie Ascioffa, Industry Relations Manager for the PWSA, testified that she had experience not only with consideration of the Application, but also with all other tap-in permit applications during the relevant time period. A true and correct copy of the pertinent portions of the deposition transcript of Ms. Ascioffa (“Ascioffa Dep.”) is attached hereto as Exhibit A. *See Ascioffa Dep.* at 7:12-17, 10:15-25, 14:9-15:20.

19. It is undisputed that Office Partners submitted an application to tap in to the PWSA’s infrastructure in 2021. *See Complaints*, ¶ 6. *See Ascioffa Dep.* at 17:4-18:2.

20. Specifically, the PWSA ultimately approved the Application on December 23, 2021. *See* Ascioffa Dep. at 64:4-8.

21. Boris Kaplan, Senior Vice President with Buccini Pollin, the developer and owner of Office Partners, confirmed the timing of the approval of the Application. A true and correct copy of the pertinent portions of the deposition transcript of Mr. Kaplan (“Kaplan Dep.”) is attached hereto as Exhibit B. *See* Kaplan Dep. at 8:2-9, 22:4-22.

22. Accordingly, it is undisputed that, on December 23, 2021, the PWSA accepted and approved the Application, identifying the fees due and owing as \$508,314.79.<sup>1</sup> *See* Complaints, ¶ 8, Exhibit C thereto; *see also* Ascioffa Dep. at pp. 51:5-23 and Exhibit J to Ascioffa Dep.; *see also* Kaplan Dep. at 25:8-28:10 and Exhibit 4 to Kaplan Dep.

23. Because different applicants submitted initial materials to the PWSA in different ways, the PWSA did not have a strict “application date” for a tap-in permit. Accordingly, the PWSA’s consistent policy during the relevant time period was to issue a tap-in permit upon payment of the applicable fees, and to determine such fees by the rate schedule in effect on the date when a tap-in permit is approved. *See* Ascioffa Dep. at 14:16-15:23, 17:16-18:3.

24. The approval date was a significant milestone in the PWSA’s application process because a tap-in permit would not issue from the PWSA if other application materials were outstanding. *See* Ascioffa Dep. at 18:5-12.

#### **Office Partners’ Attempted Withdrawal of the Application and the PWSA’s Response**

25. Following the PWSA’s approval on December 23, 2021, Office Partners attempted to “withdraw” the 2021 permit application. *See* Complaints, ¶ 11, Exhibit D thereto.

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<sup>1</sup> This amount was revised to \$506,647.18 (the “Escrow Amount”), on the basis of a recalculation of the amount of flow implicated by the Application. *See* Ascioffa Dep. 56:16-57:1.

26. The evidence of record establishes that Office Partners learned of the 2022 PUC Tariff, and its effect on tap-in fees, in January 2022—after the Application was approved.

**From:** Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:12 PM  
**To:** mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com  
**Cc:** Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>  
**Subject:** Possible Good News

FYI.

I just had got a notice from one of my staff who met with PWSA on a separate project ... they are cancelling all tap in fees for all projects effective Jan 1st. If a project was previously issued a permit then it still has to pay the fee. Was the PWSA permit issued after January 1?

There will be a public announcement within a week or two, so maybe this is an opportunity to at least ask the question ...

However, there will be an updated sewage fee and application fee which will offset some of the savings, but overall it will not be nearly as much as the current tap in fees.

Steven Savich | Vice President, Practice Executive - LD&I  
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See communications produced by Office Partners through discovery and bates labeled at OfficePartners\_000088, attached in full hereto as Exhibit C.<sup>2</sup>

27. The PWSA has no experience with an attempted withdrawal of a tap-in application, and there is no process in place for such purported withdrawal because unperfected applications can remain open in the PWSA system indefinitely. Put differently, there is no practical or official need to withdraw a tap-in application to the PWSA. See Ascioffa Dep. 20:12-14, 48:5-49:21.

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<sup>2</sup> At the relevant times hereto, Steven Savich was a senior engineer at Michael Baker International, an engineering firm working with Office Partners in support of the Application. See Kaplan Dep. 16:3-17:1. Matt Corace worked at Buccini Pollin in the technical services group. Kaplan Dep. 17:22-18:12. Toby Partridge also worked at Michael Baker International. Kaplan Dep. 17:2-6.

28. When Office Partners learned that the PWSA's tariff rates were changing in January 2022 to a structure that eliminated tap-in fees, Office Partners sought to withdraw its already-approved Application and resubmit it at a time when the fees were more favorable to Office Partners.

29. In an effort to circumvent the PWSA's consistent policy, and to shop for a preferable rate, Office Partners attempted to assert pretextual reasons<sup>3</sup> for a "new" application:

Need a high level summary that explains why this is important: "I'm reaching out to see if you might be able to lead me in the right direction regarding PWSA's new tap-in fees. I believe the issue can be resolved if we're able to get a meeting with the Dir. Will Pickering." It's 2-3 sentences pulled from what you sent Kevin and underscores that we're not seeking any favorable treatment of consideration – just for the permit date (yet to be determined) to trigger the fee structure that went into effect 1/12/22.

Kevin said that he will reach out Director Pickering before the larger call given his relationship.

We should get feedback from Steve on any reasonable/plan modifications that can also help supersede the correspondence from late December.

See communication from Mr. Kaplan to Mr. Corace, included among documents produced through discovery by Office Partners and bates labeled as OfficePartners\_0000563, attached hereto as Exhibit D.

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<sup>3</sup> Office Partners contends that the purportedly withdrawn application was a "new" application because it was amended to clarify or modify the ownership status of the subject parcel, to effect other "structural considerations," or to make changes necessary to secure regulatory approval. Kaplan Dep. 43:19-44:45:3, 47:1-4; 48:24-49:13, 50:4-51:10. However, the evidence is clear that these claims are mere pretext for Office Partners' real objective: securing a more favorable fee. (See Kaplan Dep. 45:17-46:8, 47:1-13, 50:4-51:10; 57:10-13, 64:24-65:25 and Exhibit 7 to Kaplan Dep.) The evidence is clear that changes or differences in ownership would not require a new application (Asciolla Dep. at 19:8-23), and that the subject regulator (the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection not only approved of the Application, but was actually willing to assist in expediting the Application as it was submitted in 2021 (Kaplan Dep. 34:9-35-20, 41:18-42:5 and Exhibit 5 to Kaplan Dep.). Office Partners was unable to identify a single "structural consideration" requiring a new application (Kaplan Dep. 43:23-45:7 and Exhibit 3 to Kaplan Dep., Paragraph 10 of the Complaints). Put differently, Office Partners has not asserted a single supported evidentiary basis for attempting to withdraw its Application, other than its desire for a reduced fee.

30. Office Partners admits that a “major reason” and a “central component” for the attempted re-submission of a tap-in application was the realization of cost savings; that the decision to attempt the withdrawal of the Application rested with Office Partners alone; and was not based upon any requirement or statement from the PWSA or any government entity. *See* Kaplan Dep. 47:1-13, 57:10-13, 64:24-65:25 and Exhibit 7 to Kaplan Dep.<sup>4</sup>

31. This admission is consistent with Office Partners’ objective, since first discovering the change in the tariff fee structure, to obtain a favorable rate for the Application and subsequent permit:

Please see correspondence below from Steve. Not super optimistic but there is a glimmer we may be able to save a chunk. Regardless we will not be cutting any checks to PWSA until we make a hard push. Wrapping up with Carolyn will call you in a bit.

**Matthew Corace**



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**From:** Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:41 PM  
**To:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>; Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: RE: [EXT] RE: Possible Good News

I take this to mean that the EDU based fee for sewer will remain and possibly increase some. The fees for taps (by size) of waterlines and the EDU based water fees will go away. I expect the meter costs to remain as well. I have only gotten some partial information on this but will look to confirm with Julie at PWSA tomorrow ...

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<sup>4</sup> This admission is consistent with the other evidence of record because there is no credible evidence that Office Partners had any discussions with the PWSA regarding the tap-in rates prior to January 2022, or that Office Partners made any submissions to the PUC in connection with the Rate Case. *See* Kaplan Dep. 24:10-13, 54:24-55:19.

*See* document produced by Office Partners through discovery and Bates labeled at OfficePartners\_000091, attached hereto as Exhibit E.

32. When Office Partners attempted its “withdrawal” and reapplication, the PWSA advised Office Partners that the fees contained in the Governing PUC Tariff (previously conveyed to Office Partners pursuant to the 2021-approved application via an approval letter and fee sheet) would be applicable, and that the permit would not be issued until those fees were paid. *See* Ascioffa Dep. at pp. 39:5-41:19 and Exhibit E to Ascioffa Dep.

33. In evaluating and denying Office Partners’ requests to benefit from the lower 2022 PUC Tariff Rate, the PWSA was consistent in its imperative to apply its policy uniformly to all similarly-situated applications. This imperative was addressed and approved at both the approval level with Ms. Ascioffa, and at the executive level of the PWSA. *See* Ascioffa Dep. at pp. 40:13-41:19, 46:11-47:3 and Exhibit G to Ascioffa Dep.

34. The PWSA’s treatment of the Application was consistent in all respects with its treatment of similarly-situated applicants. *See* Ascioffa Dep. 64:9-22, 66:16-67:12.<sup>5</sup>

35. Office Partners does not present any evidence that the PWSA’s consistent application of its policy contravenes any approved tariff, rule or regulation, or that Office Partners’ demand is mandated by any approved tariff, rule or regulation – nor could it.

36. Instead, Office Partners claims that the PWSA’s position in this case is inequitable because Office Partners alleges that it could have waited until its approval letter and fee sheet

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<sup>5</sup> The PWSA produced to Office Partners all approval letters, fee sheets and permits maintained by the PWSA for applications approved in 2020, 2021 and 2022. These voluminous documents, not individually cited or attached hereto, support the indisputable fact that the PWSA treated similarly-situated applications in the same manner applied to the Application—that the Tariff rate in effect at the time of approval was the governing rate.

“expired” six months after issuance, then re-submitted a “new” application to obtain a more favorable rate.

37. However, Office Partners’ argument finds no support in the evidence, since the PWSA policy was to allow for late, post-expiration payments to perfect a permit application, as long as the system had sufficient flow capacity in its system at the time in which the post-expiration payment was made. *See* Ascioffa Dep. at 20:12-22:10, 61:4-62:16.

38. Office Partners’ argument is also disingenuous, since the evidence is clear and undisputed that Office Partners sought to expedite—not to delay—the PWSA’s consideration and approval of the Application, and that the PWSA took steps to expedite the consideration of the Application. *See* Ascioffa Dep. at 63:8-64:3; Kaplan Dep. 35:21-36:21, 38:6-38:25, 42:7-43:18, 59:1-11 and Exhibit 5 to Kaplan Dep.

39. In fact, the evidence is clear that the only effort Office Partners took to stall progress on the Application was the post-approval attempt to withdrawal of the Application. This attempt was to be followed by a request for expedited treatment of the “new” application—all while relying on the PWSA’s prior approval as a basis to keep work on its project proceeding apace during the withdrawal process. *See* Kaplan Dep. 60:4-62:3, 71:1-24 and Exhibit 6 to Kaplan Dep.:

Good morning. After the OAC yesterday, we discussed our path forward with PWSA. We said that we would notify PWSA staff and Director Pickering of our intent to:

- 1) Withdraw the current tap-in fee application
- 2) Submit revised applications and tap plans that separate parcels G1 and G4
- 3) Request that both applications receive the 15-day expedited review and pay the \$1300 fee per application for expedited review

Before we send a follow up communication to PWSA, can we quickly confirm that

- 1) splitting the application into G1 and G4 components won’t have an unintended ripple impact on completed PWSA agreements, bonds, etc? If those supporting documents have to change as well, we’d likely be facing a more protracted delay than the 15 days review process.
- 2) Is there a different plan update that we should consider instead of splitting apart the G1 and G4 parcels?
- 3) Can we use the PWSA notice from December and other approvals to keep advancing the work in the field for another couple of weeks?

*See* Exhibit 6 to Kaplan Dep., attached hereto as part of Exhibit B.

40. The clear and uncontroverted evidence establishes that Office Partners' attempted withdrawal and resubmission of the Application was a *post facto* effort, described by Office Partners as a "Hail Mary," to save approximately \$500,000.00 in fees.<sup>6</sup> See Kaplan Dep. 63:20-65:25,73:7-10 and Exhibit 7 to Kaplan Dep.:

We are also exploring an alternative (a "Hail Mary") whereby we have Baker make an amendment to the previously submitted tap-in plans so that there's no ambiguity that the basis of the permit was reviewed after the January 12 date for the new fee structure.

See Exhibit 7 to Kaplan Dep., communication from Mr. Kaplan to another stakeholder in Office Partners, attached hereto as part of Exhibit B.

41. On March 15, 2022, as part of a consent process that resulted in the stay of an action initiated by Office Partners before the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas and the initiation of this Action, Office Partners paid the Escrow Amount into the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas and the PWSA issued the subject permit on the same date.

42. In their Complaints, Office Partners asks the Commission to: (1) "declare" that the applicable fees are those set forth in the 2022 PUC Tariff; (2) "order" issuance of the subject permit based upon the 2022 rate schedule; and (3) "order" the return of the funds currently held in escrow with the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas.

43. Through its requested relief, Office Partners requests that the Commission permit Office Partners to exempt itself from a mandatory statute requiring the payment of the fees set forth in the Governing PUC Tariff, which was in effect at the time of the submission, consideration and approval of the Application.

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<sup>6</sup> Office Partners also admitted that the amount correctly charged by the PWSA pursuant to the Governing PUC Tariff was consistent with the amount Office Partners budgeted for the tap-in fee, on a total project budget of approximately \$240,000,000.00. See Kaplan Dep. 68:16-69:4. It is noteworthy that Mr. Kaplan stated that, as project manager, "it's my duty to keep identifying reasonable savings that could be realized in a way that offsets potential increases that occur across the rest of the budget." See Kaplan Dep. 72:21-73:10.

44. There is no genuine issue of material fact, and judgment as a matter of law, in favor of the PWSA and against Office Partners, is appropriate on this record.

### **III. MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

#### **A. Standard of Review**

45. The moving party bears the burden of showing that no genuine issue of material fact exists and that it is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law. The Commission must view the record in the light most favorable to the non-moving party, giving that party the benefit of all reasonable inferences. *First Mortgage Co. of Pa. v. McCall*, 459 A.2d 406 (Pa. Super. 1983); *Mertz v. Lakatos*, 381 A.2d 497 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 1976).

46. The non-moving party in a motion for summary judgment must allege facts showing that an issue for trial exists. *First Mortgage Co. of Pa. v. McCall*, 459 A.2d 406 (Pa. Super. Ct. 1983); *Commonwealth v. Diamond Shamrock Chemical Co.*, 391 A.2d 1333 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 1978); *Stover v. The United Telephone Co. of Pa.*, Docket No. C-00923833 (Order entered July 21, 1992). The Commission has interpreted Section 5.102(c) in conformity with Rule 1035 (now Rule 1035.1) of the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure. *South River Power Partners, L.P. v. West Penn Power Co.*, Docket No. C-00935287 (Order entered Nov. 6, 1996). In civil practice, a non-moving party may not rely solely upon denials in its pleadings, but must submit evidence to establish that a genuine issue of material fact exists. *Nicastro v. Cuyler*, 467 A.2d 1218 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 1983); *Pennsylvania Gas & Water Co. v. Nenna & Frain, Inc.*, 467 A.2d 330 (Pa. Super. Ct. 1983); *Geriot v. Council of Borough of Darby*, 457 A.2d 202 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 1983).

**B. No Genuine Issue of Material Fact Exists Regarding Office Partners' Allegations and the Commission Should Enter Judgment as a Matter of Law in Favor of the PWSA.**

47. Office Partners bears the burden of proving that the PWSA violated a Commission regulation or order. *See* 66 Pa. C.S.A. § 332(a). However, as supported by the pleadings and the evidence of record, there is no genuine issue of material fact in this case. The PWSA is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law.

48. In cases involving the interpretation of a statute, courts are “guided by the provisions of the Statutory Construction Act, 1 Pa.C.S. § 1901 *et seq.*” as follows:

Under the Statutory Construction Act, the object of all statutory construction is to ascertain and effectuate the General Assembly’s intention. *See* 1 Pa.C.S. § 1921(a) (“The object of all interpretation and construction of statutes is to ascertain and effectuate the intention of the General Assembly”); *Hannaberry HVAC v. Workers' Compensation Appeal Bd. (Snyder, Jr.)*, 575 Pa. 66, 834 A.2d 524, 531 (2003). ***Generally speaking, the best indication of legislative intent is the plain language of a statute.*** *Commonwealth v. Gilmour Manufacturing Co.*, 573 Pa. 143, 822 A.2d 676, 679 (2003) (citations omitted). ... The Act further provides that, “[w]hen the words of a statute are clear and free from all ambiguity, the letter of it is not to be disregarded under the pretext of pursuing its spirit.” 1 Pa.C.S. § 1921(b); *see also Scheipe v. Orlando*, 559 Pa. 112, 739 A.2d 475, 478 (1999).

*Sternlicht v. Sternlicht*, 583 Pa. 149, 876 A.2d 904, 909 (Pa. 2005) (emphasis added).

49. In fact, under Section 1921(c) of the Statutory Construction Act, it is only when the words of a statute “are not explicit” that a court may resort to other considerations in order to ascertain legislative intent. *Id.*

50. As further set forth by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court: “Where the words of a statute are clear and free from ambiguity the legislative intent is to be gleaned from those very words.” *Id.*

51. Thus, 53 Pa.C.S.A. § 5607(d)(24) must be interpreted pursuant to its plain language in accordance with the foregoing rules of statutory interpretation.

52. Per the express language of 53 Pa.C.S.A. § 5607(d)(24), fees are payable *at the time of application*, and fees are determined based upon the duly adopted fee schedule which is in effect at the time of approval, *i.e.*, the time of application. *See also* PWSA Tariff (effective January 14, 2021) (“A Main Extension Applicant shall pay enumerated fees to the Authority. Fees shall be based upon the duly adopted fee schedule which is in effect at the time of payment and shall be payable at the time of application for connection or at a time to which the property owner and the Authority agree.”).<sup>7</sup>

53. Even when viewing the evidence of record in the light most favorable to Office Partners, as well as every reasonable inference from those facts, it is clear that Office Partners is not entitled to the relief it seeks from the Commission under any circumstance as a matter of law.

54. Office Partners’ claims are legally insufficient because Office Partners expressly pleads that it applied for a permit with the PWSA on May 11, 2021, and it is undisputed that the subject permit was ultimately approved during 2021. Complaints, ¶¶ 6, 8, Exhibit C thereo; *see also* Ascioffa Dep. at 64:4-8; *see also* Kaplan Dep. at 8:2-9, 22:4-22

55. Thus, the applicable fees must be determined pursuant to the rates in effect when Office Partners applied (and was approved) for its permit. As such, the controlling fees are those set forth in the Governing PUC Tariff.

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<sup>7</sup> A copy of the Tariff is publicly available at: <https://www.pgh2o.com/sites/default/files/2021-01/TARIFF%20-%20WASTEWATER%20-%20THROUGH%20SUPP%20NO.%205%20RATE%20CASE%202020%20-%20EFF%201.14.21%20%28L0980323xA35AE%29.pdf>.

56. Office Partners submitted an application for a tap-in permit in 2021; that application was considered and negotiated throughout 2021; and that application was ultimately approved and invoiced in 2021. *Id.*

57. The Application was only subject to an attempted withdrawal by Office Partners in 2022 in an attempt to secure a lower rate for an application that was fundamentally the same as its initial Application. *See* Kaplan Dep. 47:1-13, 57:10-13, 64:24-65:25 and Exhibit 7 to Kaplan Dep.

58. Office Partners cannot rely on its purported withdrawal to shirk its statutory obligations to pay the rates set forth in the Governing PUC Tariff, and allowing such withdrawal and re-submission would not only be counter to the rate structure approved by the Commission in the Rate Case, but would also be inequitable as a deviation from the PWSA's established policies and practices.

59. Office Partners' Complaints are devoid of any allegation or point of law supporting its ability to withdraw a prior *approved* application, only to resubmit the application soon thereafter, in an attempt to obtain a more favorable rate, and the record is devoid of any legal support for such an attempted "Hail Mary." *See* Kaplan Dep. 63:20-65:25, 73:7-10 and Exhibit 7 to Kaplan Dep.

60. Moreover, Office Partners' actions ignore the deleterious result to the public that would result from depriving the PWSA and its ratepayers of the amounts that are due under the fee structure in place when Office Partners applied (and was approved) for the subject permit.

61. The PWSA is upholding its obligations to its ratepayers and exercising fidelity to the applicable tariff, rules and regulations of the Commission by requiring Office Partners to pay the fees in effect upon the Application's approval, as the PWSA uniformly has done with other applicants whose application processes were conducted entirely within a single tariff rate/structure.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

62. The PWSA is entitled to summary judgment as a matter of law. The pleadings, as well as the evidence of record, demonstrate that there is no material dispute that the Application was submitted, considered and approved in 2021, during the effective period of the Governing PUC Tariff. Any attempt by Office Partners to withdraw its Application, especially after approval, for the sole purpose of achieving a lower fee, is inequitable and contrary to the governing tariff, rules and regulations of the Commission.

WHEREFORE, the PWSA respectfully requests that the Commission: (1) grant the PWSA's Motion, upon a finding that, as a matter of law, Office Partners is not permitted to withdraw an approved application for the purpose of securing a more favorable rate; (2) declare that the rates set forth in the Governing PUC Tariff apply to Office Partners' permit; (3) declare that the Escrow Amount, totaling \$506,647.18, is immediately due and owing to the PWSA by Office Partners, subject to an Order of the Commission or the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas requiring the disbursement of the Escrow Amount to the PWSA; and (4) dismiss Office Partners' Complaints against the PWSA with prejudice.

Dated: May 26, 2023

/s/ Ashley L. Buck, Esq.

Samuel A. Hornak, Esquire

Pa. I.D. No. 312360

Ashley L. Buck, Esquire

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# Transcript of Julie Ascioia, Corporate Designee

**Date:** April 14, 2023

**Case:** Office Partners XXIII Block GI, LLC -v- The Pittsburgh Water & Sewer Authority

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BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

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OFFICE PARTNERS XXIII BLOCK : Docket Nos.  
GI LLC : C-2022-3033251  
Complainant, : C-2022-3033266  
-v- :  
THE PITTSBURGH WATER AND :  
SEWER AUTHORITY, :  
Respondent. :

-----x

Deposition of THE PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER  
AUTHORITY, by its designee JULIE ASCIOLLA  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
Friday, April 14, 2023  
9:30 a.m.

Job No.: 485769  
Pages: 1 - 69  
Reported by: Keith G. Shreckengast, RPR

1                   Deposition of JULIE ASCIOLLA, held at the  
2 offices of:

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5

NERNBERG and ASSOCIATES

6

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Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

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(412) 232-0334

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Pursuant to Notice, before Keith G.

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Shreckengast, Registered Professional Reporter and

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Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of

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Pennsylvania.

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A P P E A R A N C E S

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(Attached to transcript)

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Directed the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority	
Ex. B 22 pgs. Pennsylvania Utility	27
Commission Complaint Against the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority to Set Rate for Approved Permit to Petitioner, Office Partners XXIII Block GI, LLC	
Ex. C 11 dbl-sided pgs. Respondent The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority's Preliminary Objections to Complainant's Complaints	27

Transcript of Julie Ascioffa, Corporate Designee  
Conducted on April 14, 2023

5

1	E X H I B I T S   C O N T I N U E D		
2	Ex. D	PWSA_OfficePartners_002917-2918.	36
3		1/7/22 email from Robert Herring to	
4		Steven Savich	
5	Ex. E	PWSA_OfficePartners_002574-2575.	40
6		1/10/22 email from Julie Ascioffa to	
7		Robert Herring, Steven Savich	
8	Ex. F	PWSA_OfficePartners_002746-2747.	42
9		Documents/Project	
10		Submittals/20015.10 540 North Lang	
11		Avenue	
12	Ex. G	PWSA_OfficePrtners_002923-2924.	43
13		1/31/22 email from WPickering to	
14		Julie Ascioffa	
15	Ex. H	PWSA_OfficePartners_002748-2749.	47
16		2/1/22 email from Julie Ascioffa to	
17		Steven Savich	
18	Ex. I	PWSA_OfficePartners)--2587-2589.	50
19		2/3/22 email from Will Pickering to	
20		Julie Ascioffa	
21	Ex. J	PWSA_OfficePartners_000985, 000854	51
22		(and 1 non Bates numbered pg.)	
23		12/23/21 letter from Wendy M. Dean	
24		to Office Partners XXII Block G1 LLC	
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E X H I B I T S   C O N T I N U E D

Ex. K	PWSA_OfficePartners_000446 (plus 1 non Bates numbered pg.) 2/22/22 email from Shannon Connell to Thomas Flanagan	54
Ex. L	7 pgs. C-2060 Revised Office Partners XXII Block G1 LLC	54

Transcript of Julie Ascioffa, Corporate Designee  
Conducted on April 14, 2023

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1 JULIE ASCIOLLA,  
2 Having been first duly sworn/affirmed, was examined  
3 and testified under oath as follows:

4 EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. NERNBERG:

6 Q Would you prefer I call you Julie, or Ms.  
7 Ascioffa?

8 A Julie is fine.

9 Q Okay. And could you give your full name  
10 for the record, please.

11 A Julie Ascioffa.

12 Q Julie Ascioffa, thank you. And could you  
13 please tell me your relationship with PWSA.

14 A I am the Industry Relations Manager at  
15 PWSA.

16 Q And how long have you worked for PWSA?

17 A July will be five years.

18 Q Five years. And prior to PWSA, were you  
19 employed elsewhere?

20 A I was, at the City of Pittsburgh.

21 Q And how long did you work for the City of  
22 Pittsburgh?

23 A That was seven years.

24 Q Seven years. And what was your role at  
25 the City of Pittsburgh?

1 of the case, Office Partners XXIII Block GI, LLC  
2 versus Pittsburgh Water & Sewer Authority. Are you  
3 familiar with this case?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Okay. And have you had a role with this  
6 case or these -- the Plaintiff or Complainant in  
7 this prior to this Complaint being filed?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And so are you -- it states that we  
10 requested a representative essentially to testify to  
11 certain subject matter. Do you have knowledge with  
12 regard to the PWSA's discovery responses in this  
13 action?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And do you have knowledge with regard to  
16 the application process with regard to this action?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And do you have knowledge with regard to  
19 PWSA's policies with regard to the permits that are  
20 the subject matter of this action?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And number 5, do you have knowledge with  
23 regard to the tariff and rates PWSA charges for the  
24 permits with regard to this action?

25 A Yes.

1 would go to number 6, if you could review it,  
2 please.

3 A Okay.

4 Q And sorry, number 8, 7 and 8. Just  
5 review all three, please. Let me know when you're  
6 finished. You can review more if you'd like as  
7 well.

8 A Okay, I'm good.

9 Q Could you, not necessarily specific to  
10 this case, give me an idea, you said you did testify  
11 that you're familiar with the application process  
12 for these types of permits. Could you give me a  
13 step by step how these permits work, from I guess  
14 application to approval. And just start with  
15 whatever the first step would be.

16 A Sure. So these types of permits for  
17 larger developments, or even smaller developments,  
18 have three separate approvals prior to the permit  
19 being issued. Which include a water and sewer use  
20 approval, which has its own application. And that's  
21 typically the first step. And you would submit that  
22 for review. And there would be an approval at the  
23 end of that review.

24 The second step would -- the water and  
25 sewer use application would be to a DEP planning

1 module application, depending on the results of that  
2 first water and sewer use application. And if a  
3 planning module is required, we review that  
4 application. And at the end of that comes an  
5 approval, which we sign a document that is submitted  
6 to the DEP by the applicant.

7           Once those two steps are completed, the  
8 applicant will submit what we call tap-in plans,  
9 which are engineering drawings that go through a  
10 review process. And after a back and forth with the  
11 applicant, get to a point that we can approve those.  
12 And then that, at that time, the application is  
13 considered approved. And it's met all of the  
14 requirements to that point. And we would send an  
15 approval letter, and an invoice for fees to be paid.  
16 And then the applicant would pay those fees, and the  
17 permit would be issued.

18           Q       So the permit is not issued until the  
19 fees are paid; is that correct?

20           A       That is correct.

21           Q       So that approval letter is -- is that  
22 approval letter a permit?

23           A       No, it is not a permit.

24           Q       In response to -- and I guess I should  
25 ask, it's now April of 2023, is this the same

1 process that the Complainant, Office Partners, would  
2 have participated in with regard to the subject  
3 matter of this action, the process you just  
4 described?

5 A If they were to apply today, it would be  
6 a different process. Similar requirements, but the  
7 process itself is different.

8 Q Okay. So but this -- what you just  
9 described is the process that Office Partners  
10 participated in; is that --

11 A Yes, uh-huh.

12 Q Okay. Or the process in place I should  
13 say?

14 A Correct.

15 Q What's different about the process now?

16 A So we started to use an online permitting  
17 system, which simplified the process, and reduced  
18 the number of paper applications that needed to be  
19 submitted prior to the permit issuance. So it  
20 just -- it simplified the process now.

21 Q Other than simplifying the process, is it  
22 still the same with regard to the steps?

23 A It's similar. So we ask for the same  
24 information. We just don't call it a water and  
25 sewer use application anymore. We just ask for that

1 information in your initial application. So we're  
2 reviewing the same information, just not issuing the  
3 same type of approval throughout the process.

4 Q If you could again take a look at the  
5 paragraph 6, the allegation is that on May 11th,  
6 Office Partners submitted an application to tap into  
7 PWSA infrastructure. The response, the allegations  
8 contained in paragraph 6 of the Complaints are  
9 denied as stated. While the PWSA admits that Office  
10 Partners' application was initiated, evaluated and  
11 ultimately completed and approved in '21, due to the  
12 rolling nature of Office Partners' initial  
13 application (which included meetings and numerous  
14 submissions) the PWSA is not able to admit or deny  
15 the precise application date for the subject permit.

16 Can you describe to me what you mean by  
17 rolling nature.

18 A Yes. So as I described in the process,  
19 there are several different approvals that are  
20 needed. And at the time of Office Partners'  
21 application, we didn't have a strict guideline on  
22 which of those documents should be submitted first.  
23 So we usually took the first document that was  
24 submitted as the application date. But sometimes  
25 that could be when the development permit was --

1 application was submitted. So that is what we meant  
2 by rolling nature.

3 Q Okay.

4 A Just as documents come in.

5 Q With regard to payment for the permit,  
6 you said once approved, the permit is issued upon  
7 payment, correct?

8 A Correct, as long as the other  
9 requirements have been met, yes.

10 Q Would you issue an approval letter if  
11 other requirements were not met?

12 A No.

13 Q There's no requirement once an approval  
14 letter is issued to pay for the permit, is there?

15 A No.

16 Q So an applicant could just walk away; is  
17 that right?

18 A Correct. Correct.

19 Q Has an applicant ever just walked away?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And what happens internally when an  
22 applicant just walks away? With PWSA I should say.

23 A Those applications usually just sit in  
24 our document retention software. Until, you know,  
25 either the applicant comes back to pay for that, or,

1 you know, if there's a new development on that  
2 property, in -- that process is initiated.

3 Q If the applicant -- is there any point in  
4 time where there's a letter sent that the  
5 application is no longer active, or something to  
6 that effect?

7 A No. We don't send a letter.

8 Q Okay. You said if there was a new  
9 development or something on that property. What --  
10 would it pertain to the application that you had on  
11 file, or would they start the process over again?

12 A It would depend on the nature of that  
13 development. So we would take a look at the  
14 application that had previously been approved, and  
15 then what the new development is proposing. And if  
16 they were different projects, then the application  
17 process would start over.

18 Q Okay. What about if there were different  
19 ownership groups?

20 A If it was different ownership, but the  
21 same project, same thing was going to be  
22 constructed, we would remain with the original  
23 approved application, even if the ownership changed.

24 Q Are there insurance requirements to  
25 provide the permit?

1 A I'm not sure what you mean.

2 Q Does PWSA require a developer to have  
3 insurance before issuing a permit?

4 A No, we do not.

5 Q In 2021 or 2022, were there any written  
6 policies with regard to this application process?

7 A Say that one more time.

8 Q Were there any written policies in 2021  
9 or 2022 with regard to the application process?

10 A We have the developer's manual, which  
11 contained our written policies for the process.

12 Q Were there any written policies related  
13 to the withdrawal of a permit?

14 A No.

15 Q Were there any written policies related  
16 to the expiration of a permit approval?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And do you recall what those policies  
19 are, or were, sorry, in 2021 and 2022?

20 A Yes. So in 2021, that policy was that  
21 approved permit would expire after six months.  
22 Which we had that in place because the DEP limited  
23 the amount of flow we can add to the system every  
24 year. So we had to examine those projects to make  
25 sure we had enough flow before issuing the permit.

1 And we didn't reserve flow for projects that didn't  
2 pay. So, yes.

3 Q And when a -- is there any notice when a  
4 permit expires, or an approval expires I should say?

5 A So on the invoice that we send out after  
6 approval, there is a note that lets applicants know  
7 that that approval does expire six months from the  
8 date of approval.

9 Q Has that -- was it ever a shorter or  
10 longer time period?

11 A Yes.

12 Q When was that?

13 A So during Covid in 2020, we did not have  
14 an expiration date. Because we knew projects were  
15 having trouble moving forward. So we wanted to give  
16 them time to come in and pay. And then prior to  
17 that, around, like -- I don't know the exact dates,  
18 but prior to that there was a two month expiration  
19 date at some point.

20 Q Has an approved party ever obtained a  
21 permit after the expiration --

22 A Yes.

23 Q -- for the same work?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And have they had to restart the process?

1           A       No.

2           Q       So is it safe to say that PWSA doesn't  
3 enforce the expiration policy?

4           A       So I think it's safe to say that we take  
5 it on a case-by-case basis. If an applicant comes  
6 and says they would like to receive this permit,  
7 we'll look at it, make sure the -- we still have the  
8 flow available in the system for those applications.  
9 And if we do, we would issue the permit, rather than  
10 start the application over.

11          Q       In 2021 and -- I guess 2020 and 2021, can  
12 you explain what the purpose of the application  
13 fees, or the permit fees, are for the permits that  
14 are subject matter of this action.

15          A       Say that one more time.

16          Q       Prior to 2022, as you're aware, you can  
17 confirm or not, that this charging scheme for tap-in  
18 permits changed in 2022; is that correct?

19          A       That is correct, yes.

20          Q       So prior to that change, there was a fee  
21 for tap-in permits. Once approved, you had to pay a  
22 fee. Do you know what that fee was for? What was  
23 the purpose of the fee?

24          A       So there were a few fees that an  
25 applicant had to pay at the time of approval. Which

1 application fees.

2 Q With regard to the new application fees  
3 and the application fees in 2022, what did those  
4 fees cover? What were they, the applicants, paying  
5 for?

6 A For the application fees did you say?

7 Q Yes.

8 A So that was for the time spent by our  
9 employees to review the application.

10 Q Is that -- and what would they pay for  
11 the permit, to obtain the permit upon approval at  
12 that time, in 2022 and I guess today?

13 A Yes, so at the end of the review process,  
14 it would still be the meter and tap fee based on the  
15 project.

16 Q Okay. Is that a fixed unit charge?

17 A No.

18 Q How is that determined?

19 A It's calculated based on the size of the  
20 meter, and the size of the tap, which is our --  
21 based on the direct cost to the PWSA, to provide  
22 that service.

23 Q So if a tap was X size, it would cost the  
24 same for one developer versus the other; is that  
25 right?

1 A Correct.

2 Q And there is no charge based on usage  
3 then?

4 A There would be, based on -- Like a  
5 monthly rate; is that what you're asking?

6 Q Sorry, there's no charge to obtain the  
7 permit based on usage?

8 A No.

9 Q So that maintenance fee is eliminated  
10 then?

11 A Correct, through permitting fees.

12 Q Through permitting fees?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Did PWSA alter the usage fee in any way,  
15 shape or form in 2022?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And for developers like my client, and  
18 the projects of that size, were fees increased or  
19 decreased for usage?

20 A I don't know that exactly.

21 Q Are rates higher or lower for usage now  
22 than they were in 2021?

23 A Do you mean generally, as a whole?

24 Q Yes.

25 A They are higher.

1           Q       Sorry, I'm going to have to find one more  
2 document here. We'll introduce Exhibit B, the  
3 consolidated Complaint.

4                   (Exhibit B was marked for  
5 identification.)

6                   (Exhibit C was marked for  
7 identification.)

8           MR. NERNBERG: Sam, again I'm going to  
9 represent -- and Ashley, I'm going to represent this  
10 is another consolidated document, preliminary  
11 objections.

12           MR. HORNAK: We have no objection to  
13 proceeding in that manner, provided and based upon  
14 that representation that the various requests and  
15 responses are true and correct, as well as  
16 completely consistent with the underlying requests  
17 and responses exchanged through discovery.

18           Q       Julie, again I'm going to represent that  
19 this is a consolidated document with regard to the  
20 preliminary objections that were filed by PWSA in  
21 this action, and the responses by my client. If you  
22 could, please -- I'm not really interested in going  
23 through the responses. I just want you to take a  
24 look at paragraphs 8, 9 and 10, and just review  
25 them, please. Are you completed?

1           A       Uh-huh.

2           Q       So just to be clear, paragraphs 8, 9 and  
3 10 all discuss PWSA -- preliminary objections all  
4 discuss the action before the PUC that we discussed  
5 briefly at R-2018 3002647, as well as what we  
6 discussed in the Notice of Deposition. Could you  
7 tell me what that -- just give me a background of  
8 what that action or dispute was about with the PUC.

9                   MR. HORNAK: I would just ask a point of  
10 clarification, David. In the paragraphs that you've  
11 directed her to review, 8, 9 and 10 --

12                   MR. NERNBERG: Uh-huh.

13                   MR. HORNAK: There are references to  
14 other PUC docket numbers. So are you referring  
15 specifically to the docket number --

16                   MR. NERNBERG: I'm referring to both.

17                   MR. HORNAK: -- in the Notice of  
18 Deposition, or to specific docket numbers in  
19 paragraphs 8, 9 and 10 of these consolidated --

20                   MR. NERNBERG: To both, if they're  
21 different. She can respond if the actions are  
22 different.

23                   MR. HORNAK: Can you ask the question  
24 again.

25                   MR. NERNBERG: Sure.

1 I'll defer to Julie as she returns to work on  
2 Monday. Is that yourself, you believe, he's  
3 referring to?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And at the top, it looks like you  
6 responded to Steven Savich saying the new tariff  
7 goes into effect January 12th, '22. Within the new  
8 tariff there are several changes to development  
9 fees, including the removal of tap fees and new  
10 application fees. Any permits approved in 2021 are  
11 subject to the 2021 tap fees. Any projects approved  
12 in 2022 will be subject to the 2022 tariffs and new  
13 fees. The Lower Hill project was approved on  
14 December 23rd, 2021, so the project does not fall  
15 under the new 2022 fees. Let me know if you have  
16 any more questions.

17 MR. HORNAK: And, sorry, I don't think  
18 that's on the exact Exhibit D that we have. I think  
19 our Exhibit D starts with the January 7th, 2022 at  
20 4:16:27 p.m. email from Robert Herring to Steven  
21 Savich, copying Julie. I think you're referring to  
22 a later email.

23 MR. NERNBERG: We'll just make this  
24 Exhibit E, then. Sorry, I jumped ahead.

25 MR. HORNAK: No problem. Sorry, I didn't

1 want to cut you off when you were reciting --

2 MR. NERNBERG: No, I appreciate that.

3 (Exhibit E was marked for  
4 identification.)

5 MR. NERNBERG: Thank you for correcting  
6 me I should say.

7 MR. HORNAK: No problem.

8 Q If you could review that.

9 A Okay.

10 Q Did I accurately recite the email, to the  
11 best of your knowledge?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Thank you. With regard to your email,  
14 and Robert Herring's -- or to Steven Savich's and  
15 Robert Herring's response, was there any policy in  
16 place at that time related to how PWSA applied  
17 application fees based on approval date?

18 A There was no written policy, no.

19 Q And prior to responding to Steven Savich,  
20 did you consult anyone?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Who did you consult?

23 A Our Executive Director at the time, or  
24 Chief Executive Officer, and our counsel.

25 Q I won't ask you about your conversations

1 with counsel. But could you tell me who your Chief  
2 Executive Officer was at the time.

3 A It's Will Pickering.

4 Q And could you tell me the nature of your  
5 conversation Mr. Pickering.

6 A There were several conversations. Just  
7 to ensure that we were applying the new fees  
8 equitably across all of our customers.

9 Q With regard to your email back to Steven  
10 Savich, would you say that's consistent to what  
11 you've already testified with regard to the amounts  
12 of the tap-in fees?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And you responded on the 10th of January.  
15 Would you have consulted with Mr. Pickering prior to  
16 that time?

17 A So during this time I was on vacation, so  
18 I would -- upon my return, I probably did email him  
19 prior to sending this email.

20 Q But do you recall specifically, or are  
21 you just -- do you know, or are you guessing?

22 A I don't know.

23 Q Okay. Thank you. This will be Exhibit  
24 F. I'm going to let you look at this one. It's two  
25 pages. If you could share, please.

1 been the same in 2022 and 2023, then yes.

2 Q Okay. And your belief was then they were  
3 attempting to withdraw and submit new permits to  
4 take advantage of the 2022 fees versus the 2021  
5 fees?

6 A Correct.

7 Q And would you say that you told them they  
8 could not withdraw the application?

9 A Yes, because there was not a process to  
10 do so.

11 Q The prior email that we discussed with  
12 Mr. Pickering and Herring were January 7th and  
13 January 10th. I believe you testified that you  
14 would have discussed the issues with them prior to  
15 responding. Does this refresh your recollection as  
16 to when you may have discussed these issues with Mr.  
17 Pickering, or Miss Presutti for that matter?

18 A Yes. I mean this is helpful for this  
19 particular email. Not necessarily the previous  
20 email.

21 Q And I see a response from Mr. Pickering  
22 that says, Hi Julie, as long as this approach is  
23 consistent with how we would treat similar  
24 applications, I support your position. Would you  
25 have had any other conversations related

1 specifically to this email with Mr. Pickering, or  
2 Miss Presutti?

3 A I don't know.

4 Q Okay. That's all I have for that one.

5 MR. HORNAK: Did we mark this as an  
6 exhibit?

7 MR. NERNBERG: Yes, it is G.

8 Q With regard to that email, I should ask,  
9 if they -- I believe you suggested they revise the  
10 application; is that correct?

11 A I don't think I suggested that.

12 Q Sorry, the 1-10 email. I should go back  
13 to that. I don't have it before me.

14 MR. HORNAK: You're referring to Exhibit  
15 E?

16 MR. NERNBERG: Actually, strike that.  
17 Strike that.

18 A I'm confused.

19 Q This will be Exhibit H.

20 (Exhibit H was marked for  
21 identification.)

22 Q If you could please review again.

23 A Okay.

24 Q I perhaps got a bit ahead of myself.

25 This is -- if you review both pages, this appears to

1 be your response to Steven Savich with regard to his  
2 request to separate the applications. Is that  
3 correct?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Okay. And you wrote, we don't have any  
6 existing policies to withdraw an application. Did  
7 you have any existing policies against withdrawing  
8 an application?

9 A No, not explicitly.

10 Q All permits under review have the option  
11 to submit revised applications, planning modules,  
12 and tap-in plans without restarting an application.  
13 What would be the other option, or any other  
14 options?

15 MR. HORNAK: Object to the form. You can  
16 answer.

17 A I don't think there would have been  
18 another option. Just to abandon the application.

19 Q What would happen if they submitted a  
20 revision and it was rejected by PWSA?

21 A Typically revisions will go through a  
22 review process between PWSA engineers and the  
23 project engineer, to come to a point that they are  
24 approved. So typically they aren't outright  
25 rejected.

1           Q       Let's say -- let's not use our client,  
2 but just a random -- any individual developer. If a  
3 developer had submitted plans, they're approved,  
4 paid the permit fee, and the permit was issued,  
5 could they revise the plans after the permit was  
6 issued?

7           A       Yes.

8           Q       And if those revised plans were not  
9 accepted -- if they were accepted, would a revised  
10 permit be issued?

11          A       Not a new permit. It would -- the  
12 original permit would remain in existence, and the  
13 tap-in plans would be updated for that permit.

14          Q       Okay. And if the revisions were not  
15 accepted, would the tap-in plans be revised in that  
16 situation?

17          A       Yeah, I don't -- I can't think of a  
18 scenario where they would not be accepted. Again,  
19 the engineers would work back and forth until they  
20 are approved, until they're at a point acceptable to  
21 PWSA.

22          Q       To the best of your knowledge, has a  
23 developer, someone desiring to tap-in, ever  
24 abandoned a revision, because it was not able to  
25 complete it to their satisfaction, or for some other

1           A        If we don't have that email in your  
2 records, then it wasn't by email.

3                   (Exhibit J was marked for  
4 identification.)

5           Q        We marked this as Exhibit J. This is a  
6 three page document. And I'll ask you about each  
7 page individually. I believe you discussed an  
8 approval of my client's permit. This letter on top  
9 that's dated December 23rd, 2021, is this the  
10 approval that you're referring to?

11          A        Yes.

12          Q        And it states that the tap-in plans for  
13 the project have been calculated and approved; is  
14 that right?

15          A        Yes.

16          Q        And it says the fees have been calculated  
17 and are attached for your reference. Permits are  
18 not considered issued until permit fees are paid; is  
19 that correct?

20          A        Correct.

21          Q        And is that consistent, to the best of  
22 your knowledge, with your prior testimony today?

23          A        Yes.

24          Q        If we could go to page 2, please.

25                   MR. HORNAK: You're referring to

1 being Bates stamped. And my guess is that they are  
2 also part of a larger Bates stamp production, one  
3 way or the other.

4 MR. HORNAK: Understood.

5 Q So let me know when you've been able to  
6 review them.

7 A I'm good.

8 Q Let's just start with the first page.  
9 This appears to be similar to the 12-23 rate chart  
10 that we reviewed previously. At the bottom here it  
11 notes payment for permits must be received within  
12 six months from 3-3-21. Would this relate to the  
13 revised permit by Office Partners?

14 A You would think so, but that date does  
15 not match up.

16 Q You did testify previously that the  
17 permit was issued after funds were placed into  
18 escrow; is that correct?

19 A Correct.

20 Q So we'll start with the first page. The  
21 total is \$506,647.18. That is slightly less than  
22 the prior billing, correct?

23 A Correct.

24 Q And would that be based in part upon the  
25 EDUs?

1 A Correct. Yes.

2 Q And if we go to the second page, this  
3 appears to be a signed Development Permit Form. Is  
4 this something that's created by the PWSA?

5 A It was at the time, yes.

6 Q At the time, I guess that is, thank you.  
7 And it says Permit Number 2022-0021; is that  
8 correct?

9 A Correct.

10 Q So would that be for permits issued in  
11 2022?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Okay. And the next page -- and the next  
14 page appears to be a continuation of that; is that  
15 correct?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And it's dated 3-15-2022, correct, at the  
18 bottom right?

19 A Correct.

20 Q And if you look at the amount, the check  
21 amount, it says -- or amount due, 506,647.18?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Is that the same as the first page?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And then if we go to what I'll say is the

1 THE WITNESS: No, let's just get it done.

2 EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. HORNAK:

4 Q And I may jump around a little bit. I  
5 just wanted to clarify a couple of answers that you  
6 gave throughout the course of your deposition. I  
7 believe earlier you gave some representation about  
8 whether PWSA has a policy relating to whether an  
9 approval would, on its face, purportedly expire  
10 after two, three, six months, or perhaps not at all  
11 during Covid. Did the PWSA have a written policy  
12 about that practice, or was that based on just  
13 consistent treatment of similarly situated  
14 applicants?

15 A At some point we did put it in the  
16 Developers Manual. But prior to that point, it was  
17 just applied consistently across applicants.

18 Q To the extent that the PWSA had written  
19 policies about tap-in fees during 2021, into 2022,  
20 were those written policies articulated in the  
21 applicable Developers Agreement?

22 A Developers Manual?

23 Q Or Developers Manual, yes.

24 A Yes.

25 Q As well as the PWSA's PUC approved rules

1 and regulations; is that correct?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Towards the very end of your deposition,  
4 and I'm still asking about that two, three, six  
5 month expiration period, you testified, I believe,  
6 that the intent was that that two, three or six  
7 month time period be applied across the board. Do  
8 you remember that testimony?

9 A Yes.

10 Q When you say the intent was that it be  
11 applied across the board, did you mean, is it  
12 correct to say that the PWSA intended to apply the  
13 same time period as articulated at the bottom of an  
14 approval letter, to any applicant on a particular  
15 date?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Between the time when a permit is  
18 approved, and a tap-in ultimately occurs, and there  
19 is actual usage, does the PWSA apply any flat fees  
20 or non-usage based fees to a property?

21 A No.

22 Q Okay. I'd like to -- I'll show you  
23 Exhibit F. If you take a look at this, I think you  
24 testified that that is a set of screenshots from the  
25 PWSA's EBuilder system. And there were some

1 questions about certain entries on this, including  
2 dates that seemed to appear on this document. Is it  
3 possible that those dates are associated with when  
4 various documents are uploaded to EBuilder, rather  
5 than when such documents are either created or  
6 submitted to the PWSA?

7 A Correct.

8 Q In the middle of your deposition  
9 testimony there were some questions about revisions,  
10 and the back and forth discussion process between  
11 the PWSA and various developers. I don't think that  
12 questioning was confined just to Office Partners.  
13 Is it your general experience that developers want  
14 to work with PWSA toward ultimate approval of either  
15 an underlying application, or to the revisions to a  
16 previously approved application?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Is it your general experience that  
19 developers want to expedite the PWSA's consideration  
20 of projects, and want to expedite the PWSA's  
21 ultimate approval of those projects?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Based on your personal involvement with  
24 the Office Partners application, and based upon your  
25 review of records, is it your understanding that

1 Office Partners wanted to expedite consideration and  
2 ultimate approval of their application?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Is it your understanding that the  
5 application, consideration, and ultimate approval of  
6 the Office Partners application all occurred within  
7 calendar year 2021?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Prior to and including the Office  
10 Partners application, so other applications, say in  
11 2020 and 2021, up through the Office Partners  
12 application in 2021, was the PWSA consistent in  
13 using the approval date for an application as  
14 determinative of which tariff would apply?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Are you aware of any instances where the  
17 PWSA did not look to approval date?

18 A No, I'm not aware.

19 Q Do you have any reason to believe that  
20 the PWSA did not treat Office Partners the same as  
21 any other similarly situated applicant?

22 A No.

23 MR. HORNAK: I don't have any further  
24 questions. Mr. Nernberg may have some followup  
25 questions based on mine.

1 MR. NERNBERG: I may have two.

2 RE-EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. NERNBERG:

4 Q With regard do written policies, would  
5 you say they are all contained in the Developers  
6 Manual? The written policies we discussed today, if  
7 there are written policies, would they be contained  
8 in the Development Manuals applicable at the time?

9 A Yes.

10 Q With regard to the EBuilder spreadsheet,  
11 Exhibit F, the documents upload date, is that when  
12 they are submitted to PWSA, or was there another way  
13 to submit them to PWSA?

14 A This is the official way to submit your  
15 documents. But just because it's in the system  
16 doesn't mean that it's an official submittal.  
17 Typically at that time using EBuilder we would  
18 require a review fee be submitted prior to that --  
19 the start -- prior to us reviewing the application.  
20 So it could be in the EBuilder system before we  
21 considered it submitted.

22 Q But it would not be in the EBuilder  
23 system after you considered it submitted?

24 A It would be.

25 Q Right. So in order to be considered

1 submitted, it has to be in the EBuilder system at  
2 that time; is that correct?

3 A Yes. Yes.

4 Q Mr. Hornak had asked you if Office  
5 Partners is treated similarly to other developers  
6 and builders during that time period with regard to  
7 tap fees and approvals. Did any other developers  
8 request to withdraw their permits during that time  
9 period?

10 A To withdraw, no, not that came to my  
11 attention.

12 MR. NERNBERG: That's all I have.

13 MR. HORNAK: I have nothing further. Do  
14 you want to ask me a question?

15 THE WITNESS: No.

16 A I did just want to add to that, that even  
17 though they didn't ask for withdrawal, we did have  
18 several ask about the fees, and to waive the fees as  
19 well. So those were treated similarly.

20 BY MR. NERNBERG:

21 Q So no fees were waived for any developer  
22 that had an approval in -- prior to January 12th,  
23 2022?

24 A Correct.

25 MR. NERNBERG: That's all I have.

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RE-EXAMINATION

BY MR. HORNAK:

Q To clarify Mr. Nernberg's last question, your answer that no fees were waived for any developer during the applicable time period, did you -- what did you mean by that? Did you mean that no other developer asked for treatment under a different tariff, and received a fee waiver, or fee reduction?

A Correct, yes, that's what I meant. If they had asked for a fee waiver related to tap fees in the new tariff, we did not grant that waiver.

MR. HORNAK: Understood. I have no further questions.

MR. NERNBERG: I have no followup.

MR. HORNAK: We'd like to read.

(Off the record at 11:05 a.m.)

1 CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER - NOTARY PUBLIC

2

3 I, Keith G. Shreckengast, Registered  
4 Professional Reporter, the officer before whom the  
5 foregoing proceedings were taken, do hereby certify  
6 that the foregoing transcript is a true and correct  
7 record of the proceedings; that said proceedings  
8 were taken by me stenographically, and thereafter  
9 reduced to typewriting under my supervision; that  
10 reading and signing was requested, and that I am  
11 neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any  
12 of the parties to this case, and have no interest,  
13 financial or otherwise, in its outcome.

14 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand  
15 and affixed my notarial seal this 26th day of April.

16

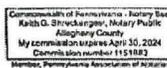
17

18 My commission expires April 30, 2024.

19

20

21 



23 NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR THE  
24 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

25

Message

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**From:** jasciolla@pgh2o.com [jasciolla@pgh2o.com]  
**Sent:** 1/10/2022 2:47:04 PM  
**To:** RHerring@pgh2o.com; SSavich@mbakerintl.com  
**Subject:** RE: Tap In Fees

Hi Steven,

The new tariff goes into effect January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Within the new tariff, there are several changes to development fees including the removal of tap fees and new application fees.

Any permits approved in 2021 are subject to the 2021 tap fees. Any projects approved in 2022 will be subject to the 2022 tariff and new fees.

The Lower Hill Project was approved on December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 so the project does not fall under the new 2022 fees. Let me know if you have any more questions.

---

**From:** Robert Herring, PE, PMP <RHerring@pgh2o.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 7, 2022 11:16 AM  
**To:** Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>  
**Cc:** Julie Ascioffa <jasciolla@pgh2o.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Tap In Fees

Steven,

I'll defer to Julie, as she returns to work on Monday.

Thanks,



Robert Herring, PE, PMP  
Senior Project Manager  
Office: 412.255.8800  
Ext: 5532

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

<https://pgh2o.com>



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---

**From:** Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 6, 2022 5:23 PM  
**To:** Robert Herring, PE, PMP <RHerring@pgh2o.com>



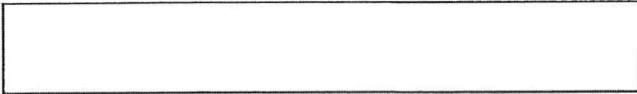
**Cc:** Julie Ascioffa <jasciolla@pgh2o.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Tap In Fees

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the authority. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Rob:

I sent the email below to Julie and got her out of office message ... Can you speak to the question below?

**Steven Savich** | Vice President, Practice Executive - LD&I  
100 Airside Drive, Airside Business Park | Moon Township, PA 15108 | [O] 412-269-6467 | [M] 330-550-4579  
[ssavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com) | [www.mbakertnl.com](http://www.mbakertnl.com)



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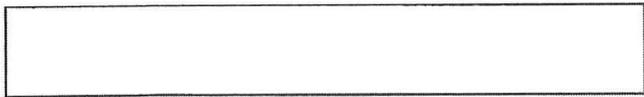
**From:** Savich, Steven  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 6, 2022 5:21 PM  
**To:** 'Julie Ascioffa' <jasciolla@pgh2o.com>  
**Subject:** Tap In Fees

Julie:

By way of another project we were notified that the policy on tap in fees is changing and will eliminate the water portion, modify the sewer and add another administration fee. It was expressed to us as a net reduction in the previous fee structure. The indication was that projects not permitted currently (or after January 1<sup>st</sup> 2022) would be subject to the new (and possibly reduced fees). Can you provide some insight into that and if it could be applied to the Lower Hill development?

If available, I can give you a call tomorrow to get a better understanding of this as the information provided was third hand at best ...

**Steven Savich** | Vice President, Practice Executive - LD&I  
100 Airside Drive, Airside Business Park | Moon Township, PA 15108 | [O] 412-269-6467 | [M] 330-550-4579  
[ssavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com) | [www.mbakertnl.com](http://www.mbakertnl.com)



Message

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**From:** WPickering@pgh2o.com [WPickering@pgh2o.com]  
**Sent:** 1/31/2022 9:33:02 PM  
**To:** jasciolla@pgh2o.com; JPresutti@pgh2o.com  
**CC:** RHerring@pgh2o.com  
**Subject:** RE: Lower Hill G1/G4 Tap In Application

Hi Julie – As long as this approach is consistent with how we would treat similar applications, I support your position.

**From:** Julie Ascioffa <jasciolla@pgh2o.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 31, 2022 3:10 PM  
**To:** Will Pickering <WPickering@pgh2o.com>; Jennifer Presutti <JPresutti@pgh2o.com>  
**Cc:** Robert Herring, PE, PMP <RHerring@pgh2o.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Lower Hill G1/G4 Tap In Application

Good afternoon,

I wanted to pass along this email I received from the FNB Tower. I assume this is their way to skirt the fees. I am going to advise them that they wouldn't withdraw the application as that is not necessary. They would just submit a revised planning module under their previous application and pay the expedited revised permit review fee. They likely will not like that answer so I wanted to run it by you 3 before responding.



Julie Ascioffa  
Industry Relations Manager  
Office: 412.255.8800  
Ext.8019  
Cell: 412.606.1233  
24/7 media inquiry line: 412.430.3898

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

<https://pgh2o.com>



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**From:** Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 31, 2022 3:01 PM  
**To:** Julie Ascioffa <jasciolla@pgh2o.com>  
**Cc:** Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>; mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com; Boris Kaplan <bkaplan@bpgroup.net>  
**Subject:** Lower Hill G1/G4 Tap In Application



**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the authority. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Julie –

I wanted to give you the heads up that, after much internal discussion, the owner of the project will be withdrawing their current Tap-In permit application and submitting new applications later this week. In further evaluation of the project program and path forward for the planning module they feel it is most prudent to separate the G1 and G4 parcels for a few reasons:

First, the ownership entities for each of these parcels will be different and in turn so would the ultimate holder of the permitted sewage facilities.

Second, the sewer (and water) usage for the G4 parcel is still unknown at this time. The landscape and configuration is set but the facilities for small business retail uses are still being determined.

Third, there is a concern that PADEP will not approve the combined G1 / G4 application since the outcome of the meetings with them allowed for the development of the G1 parcel only under the capacity of the overall block.

With that said, there is still a need for expediency in getting to final permit for the G1 block. The intent would be to file the permit application as an expedited application under the new guidance. This would guarantee an initial review period of 15 days, correct? We will review all of the updated forms and process to ensure we have met the requirements and provide the checklist with the new application to allow for PWSA staff to better review the application. Please let me know what you will need from the owner to withdraw the current application and to establish the new project email within ebuilder and confirm path forward for the new application.

If you like, we can touch base later today to discuss in more detail.

Thanks!

**Steven Savich** | Vice President, Practice Executive - LD&I

100 Airside Drive, Airside Business Park | Moon Township, PA 15108 | [O] 412-269-6467 | [M] 330-550-4579

[ssavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com) | [www.mbakerial.com](http://www.mbakerial.com)     

**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL

*We Make a Difference*



December 23, 2021

Office Partners XXII Block G1 LLC  
1000 N. West Street  
Wilmington DE 19801

**RE: Address TBD - 15219  
Water and Sewer Tap-in Plans**

Dear Office Partners XXII Block G1 LLC,

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) has approved the tap-in plans for the above referenced project.

The fees have been calculated and are attached for your reference. Permits are not considered issued until permit fees are paid.

Due to the closure of the PWSA permit counter in response to COVID-19, payments will be accepted by mail only. Please send check or money order to Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority at 1200 Penn Avenue, PGH, PA, 15222, Attention: Permits. Permits will be processed and emailed after payment is received.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (412) 255-8800 x8030.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Wendy M. Dean'.

Wendy M. Dean  
Engineering Tech II

Attachment

cc: PWSA File

Permit Liberty Plaza I  
1200 Penn Avenue  
Pittsburgh PA 15222

info@pgh2o.com  
T 412.255.2423  
F 412.255.2475



Customer Service /  
Emergencies:  
412.255.2423

PWSA\_OfficePartners\_000985



**C-2060**  
**OFFICE PARTNERS XXII BLOCK G1 LLC**  
**Address TBD**

96.53	Water EDU's	=	\$214,682.72
96.53	Sewer EDU's	=	\$287,466.34
(1)	6" tap	=	\$1,314.43
(1)	8" tap	=	\$1,349.95
(1)	4" tap	=	\$1,106.35
(1)	1.5" meter	=	\$492.00 – Domestic Positive Displacement
(1)	3" meter	=	\$1,668.00 – Compound Domestic
(1)	5/8" x 3/4" meter	=	\$235.00 – Fire Line

**TOTAL = \$508,314.79**

Please make check or money order payable to PWSA or Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority. The approved permit will be processed and emailed after payment has been received.

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE \*\***

**PAYMENT FOR PERMITS MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN 6 MONTHS FROM 12/23/2021. IF PERMITS ARE NOT PAID FOR WITHIN THIS PERIOD, THIS PROJECT AND PLANS WILL BE VOIDED AND WILL REQUIRE THIS PROJECT TO START FROM THE BEGINNING.**

Penn Liberty Plaza I  
1200 Penn Avenue  
Pittsburgh PA 15222

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T 412.255.2423  
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Customer Service /  
Emergencies:  
412.255.2429



**C-2060**  
**OFFICE PARTNERS XXII BLOCK G1 LLC**  
**Address TBD**

96.5395.20	Water EDU's	=	\$214,682.72	<u>211,714.74</u>
<del>96.53-95.20</del>	Sewer EDU's	=	\$287,466.34	<u>283,492.13</u>
(1)	6" tap	=	\$1,314.43	
(1)	8" tap	=	\$1,349.95	
<del>(1)</del>	<del>4" tap</del>	<del>=</del>	<del>\$1,106.35</del>	
<del>(1)</del>	<del>1.5" meter</del>	<del>=</del>	<del>\$492.00</del>	<del>Domestic Positive Displacement</del>
(1)	3" meter	=	\$1,668.00	Compound Domestic
(1)	5/8" x 3/4" meter	=	\$235.00	Fire Line

**TOTAL = \$508,314.79 499,744.28**

**Please make check or money order payable to PWSA or Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority. The approved permit will be processed and emailed after payment has been received.**

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE \*\***  
**PAYMENT FOR PERMITS MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN 6 MONTHS FROM 12/23/2021. IF PERMITS ARE NOT PAID FOR WITHIN THIS PERIOD, THIS PROJECT AND PLANS WILL BE VOIDED AND WILL REQUIRE THIS PROJECT TO START FROM THE BEGINNING.**

BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

- - -

OFFICE PARTNERS XXIII	)	
BLOCK G1, LLC,	)	Docket Nos.
	)	C-2022-3033251
	)	C-202203933266
Claimant,	)	
	)	
	)	
-vs-	)	
	)	
	)	
THE PITTSBURGH WATER	)	
AND SEWER AUTHORITY,	)	
	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	
	)	

DEPOSITION OF BORIS KAPLAN

April 19, 2023

Reported by:  
Michelle L. Goehring  
Job no: 7062



1 DEPOSITION OF BORIS KAPLAN, a witness  
2 herein, called by the Respondent, for  
3 examination, taken pursuant to the Pennsylvania  
4 Rules of Civil Procedure, by and before  
5 Michelle L. Goehring, a court reporter and a  
6 notary public in and for the Commonwealth of  
7 Pennsylvania, at the offices of Clark Hill PLC,  
8 One Oxford Centre, 301 Grant Street,  
9 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday,  
10 April 19, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

11 COUNSEL PRESENT:

12 For the Claimant:

13 MAURICE A. NERNBERG & ASSOCIATES  
14 by David M. Nernberg, Esq.  
15 301 Smithfield Street  
16 Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
17 dmn@nernberg.com

18 For the Respondent:

19 CLARK HILL PLC  
20 by Samuel A. Hornak Esq.  
21 by Ashley L. Buck, Esq.  
22 One Oxford Centre  
23 301 Grant Street  
24 14th Floor  
25 Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
shornak@clarkhill.com  
abuck@clarkhill.com

- - -  
I N D E X

1			
2	WITNESS		PAGE
3			
4	BORIS KAPLAN		
5	By Mr. Hornak		4, 75
6	By Mr. Nernberg		72

E X H I B I T S

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11	Exhibit 2	First set of Interrogatories and Request for Production	19
12	Exhibit 3	PPUC Formal Complaint	20
13	Exhibit 4	12/23/21 Letter & 1/3/22 Emails	25
14	Exhibit 5	1/3/22 E-mails	29
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1           A.     I live on Cynwyd Road in Bala  
2 Cynwyd, so it confuses a lot of people.

3           Q.     That might be one that we'll have --  
4 I don't want to assume that the court reporter  
5 doesn't know how to spell, but I would need  
6 help spelling that.

7           A.     C-Y-N-W-Y-D.

8           Q.     What's your educational background,  
9 Mr. Kaplan?

10          A.     I have an undergraduate from the  
11 University of Pittsburgh and a graduate degree  
12 and MBA from MIT.

13          Q.     What's your undergraduate degree in?

14          A.     In international relations.

15          Q.     What did you study at MIT?

16          A.     I studied financial management.

17          Q.     When did you graduate from those two  
18 schools?

19          A.     I graduated in 1994 from the  
20 University of Pittsburgh and 2000 from MIT,  
21 Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

22          Q.     Who is your current employer,  
23 Mr. Kaplan?

24          A.     I work for the Buccini/Pollin.

25          Q.     And what's your title with

1 Buccini/Pollin?

2 A. I'm a senior vice president.

3 Q. How long have you been with

4 Buccini/Pollin?

5 A. Since 2008, so about 15 years.

6 Q. And since you've been there, what  
7 roles have you filled for Buccini/Pollin?

8 A. Primarily in project origination and  
9 project management.

10 Q. Okay. Let's separate those two.  
11 Project origination is that kind of sales,  
12 business development for Buccini/Pollin?

13 A. Yes. It's identifying business  
14 opportunities for our company, working with  
15 owners of property on potential acquisitions  
16 for our company, and then coming up with  
17 development plans for those properties.

18 Q. Okay. And what roles have you  
19 filled on the project management side of your  
20 responsibilities at Buccini/Pollin?

21 A. I've overseen projects ranging in  
22 size from small, mixed-use info projects with  
23 several apartments over retail. I've developed  
24 a large multi-family development in the City of  
25 Philadelphia. For the past four or five years,

1 Baker, the Michael Baker Firm in the  
2 development of the FNB Tower?

3 A. So Michael Baker is an engineering  
4 firm that's worked with our team in both the  
5 development of the master plan, but also in the  
6 FNB Tower project.

7 They're responsible for civil  
8 engineering services and they are our principal  
9 representatives in a number of approval  
10 activities with various city and state  
11 agencies.

12 Q. Okay. Thank you.

13 I'm going ask you about a few names  
14 that Office Partners has identified through  
15 discovery. Perhaps you can give me who they  
16 work for, what their role in the development of  
17 FNB Tower has been.

18 A. Sure.

19 Q. First is Steven Savich, S-A-V-I-C-H?

20 A. Sure. Steven Savich is a senior  
21 engineer at Michael Baker. He has worked on  
22 development of the master plan, the  
23 engineering -- civil engineering associated  
24 with the master plan. He has also worked on  
25 various entitlement and approval efforts for

1 the FNB Tower.

2 Q. What about Toby Partridge?

3 A. Toby Partridge also works for  
4 Michael Baker; is a colleague of Steve Savich.

5 Q. Similar job responsibilities?

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. Craig Dunham?

8 A. Craig Dunham had been a consultant  
9 to the Pittsburgh Penguins or the local  
10 partners in this development. Currently Craig  
11 Dunham is an employee of the Pittsburgh  
12 Penguins.

13 Q. Okay. When he was consulting for  
14 the Pittsburgh Penguins, was he employed by  
15 someone else?

16 A. He had his own consulting company,  
17 Dunham Real Estate Group.

18 Q. Understood.

19 A. Dunham reGroup.

20 Q. What about Wesley Schwandt,  
21 S-C-H-W-A-N-D-T?

22 A. Wes Schwandt works for the  
23 Buccini/Pollin Group. He is a senior executive  
24 in our technical services group called BPGS.

25 Q. Joseph Lisicky, L-I-S-I-C-K-Y?

1           A.     Joe Lisicky is a general counsel for  
2     the Buccini/Pollin Group.

3           Q.     Okay. He's an attorney?

4           A.     Correct.

5           Q.     What about William Sittig,  
6     S-I-T-T-I-G?

7           A.     Bill Sittig works for Sittig  
8     Cortese, a local land use attorney. He's an  
9     attorney, as well.

10          Q.     Okay. Matt Corace, C-O-R-A-C-E?

11          A.     Matt Corace works directly for Wes  
12     Schwandt in BPGS.

13          Q.     Okay. The name is obviously  
14     familiar for any Pittsburgher, but what is the  
15     role of Kevin Acklin with respect to this  
16     development?

17          A.     Sure. Kevin Acklin is a senior  
18     executive with the Pittsburgh Penguins. He had  
19     a lot of day-to-day responsibilities for the  
20     real estate development components of the  
21     project.

22          Q.     Okay. And the last name that I have  
23     for now is Bomani, B-O-M-A-N-I, Howze,  
24     H-O-W-Z-E?

25          A.     Bomani Howze is a vice president

1 paragraph-by-paragraph basis, but I just want  
2 to confirm some facts. But if you could turn  
3 to  
4 Paragraph 6 on Page 1, which generally says  
5 that Office Partners submitted an application  
6 to tap into the PWSA infrastructure in May of  
7 2021.

8 That timeline is correct, as far as  
9 you can recall?

10 A. As far as I can recall, yes.

11 Q. Is your recollection, both on your  
12 own and behalf of Office Partners, that the  
13 first interactions with the PWSA, related to  
14 the FNB Tower took place during calendar year  
15 2021?

16 A. I think that's right.

17 Q. That's consistent with what's pled  
18 here. I just wanted to confirm that.

19 In Paragraph 7 the complaint reads,  
20 "Between August of 2021 until December 21 of  
21 2021 Office Partners and the PWSA communicated  
22 regarding the plan submissions."

23 Did you, personally, have any role  
24 in those communications between Office Partners  
25 and the PWSA?

1 Have you, personally, ever communicated with  
2 PWSA about the development of the FNB Tower?

3 A. I don't think that I have.

4 Q. In the communications referenced in  
5 Paragraph 7 of the Complaint, do you know  
6 whether there was any discussion of what rate  
7 would apply to the application of Office  
8 Partners to tap into the PWSA system in 2021?

9 A. I don't know.

10 Q. Okay. Are you aware of whether any  
11 such discussions took place specific to the  
12 issue of what rate would apply?

13 A. I don't know the specifics.

14 MR. NERNBERG: I'm going to  
15 object as to form and really just to clarify  
16 the question. Are you asking specifically  
17 within that date range in Paragraph 7? That's  
18 what you're referencing?

19 MR. HORNAK: Yes.

20 BY MR. HORNAK:

21 Q. We can move on to Paragraph No. 8,  
22 which reads, "On December 23, 2021, the PWSA by  
23 letter accepted the tap in plans but informed  
24 Office Partners the permit would not be  
25 considered approved until the permit fees were

1 subdivision of the G Block?

2 A. I believe it was following the  
3 subdivision.

4 Q. Okay. There's a reference to --  
5 specifically to the plan being rejected -- or  
6 to the application being rejected by the  
7 commonwealth agency, which you have just cast  
8 as the DEP.

9 Did the DEP ever explicitly advise  
10 Office Partners that its applications, either  
11 to the DEP or to the PWSA, would be rejected on  
12 the basis of a subdivision?

13 A. I don't recall specifically the  
14 guidance, but there were general concerns about  
15 the impact of subdivisions on prior approvals.

16 Q. Did any entity, external to Office  
17 Partners or its agents and representatives,  
18 explicitly warn Office Partners that an  
19 application or permit would be rejected based  
20 upon different owners or subdivision of  
21 parcels?

22 A. I believe that to be the case.

23 Q. I guess what I'm trying to get at,  
24 Mr. Kaplan, is was that the impression of  
25 Office Partners based on its experience or was

1           there a communication or representation made by  
2           an outside entity to Office Partners of a  
3           potential rejection?

4           A.     I believe it was based on  
5           representations.  There were extensive  
6           discussions back and forth with agents of the  
7           DEP and PWSA, submissions and letters back and  
8           forth trying to preserve the prior approvals,  
9           and an understanding that the DEP was making  
10          some level of a concession to permit our  
11          advancing of a time-sensitive project on Block  
12          G1, but that we would need future additional  
13          and costly approvals beyond those that have  
14          already been secured.

15          Q.     But you don't remember the specifics  
16          of those representations, including when they  
17          were made, by who, to whom, or what the  
18          substance of the representations were?

19          A.     They are just as I described to you.  
20          That's the extent of my recollection.

21          Q.     Thank you.  You just spoke about the  
22          time sensitivity of the project.  What was the  
23          time sensitivity of development of the FNB  
24          Tower?

25          A.     Sure.  So the FNB Tower was and is

1 being developed for an anchor tenant. That  
2 anchor tenant has a lease with Office Partners.  
3 That lease has certain penalties if milestones  
4 and if delivery dates are missed, and so it's  
5 incumbent on Office Partners to proceed with  
6 the development of the project as quickly and  
7 as expeditiously as possible and avoid any  
8 possible delays and setbacks to the schedule.

9 Q. When did those efficiency  
10 imperatives begin for Office Partners?

11 So in 2021 when the application for  
12 the FNB Tower was first submitted to the PWSA,  
13 did those time sensitivities exist at that  
14 time?

15 A. They did. The lease predated those  
16 engagements and we were aware that there were  
17 milestones that needed to be met.

18 Q. So those milestones and time  
19 sensitivities existed from the start of the  
20 project to the present?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. In -- hold on one second here -- in  
23 Exhibit 5, if you have that in front of you, at  
24 the top it's an e-mail from Matt Corace to --

25 MR. NERNBERG: Exhibit 5 is

1 the January 3, 2022 e-mail?

2 MR. HORNAK: That's correct.

3 MR. NERNBERG: Thank you.

4 BY MR. HORNAK:

5 Q. I want to direct you to a couple of  
6 things in this exhibit, which I'll represent is  
7 a chain of e-mails, and as we did in the  
8 deposition of --

9 MR. NERNBERG: Exhibit 5  
10 starts with Office Partners\_44?

11 MR. HORNAK: That's correct.  
12 It's Office Partners\_44 through Office  
13 Partners\_50.

14 BY MR. HORNAK:

15 Q. As we did in a deposition that  
16 Office Partners took of a PWSA representative,  
17 we'll start from the back of this e-mail.  
18 That's the way they're printed and that's  
19 probably the easiest way to go through them  
20 chronologically.

21 So if you could turn to Office  
22 Partners\_50, there's an e-mail that actually  
23 begins on the previous page from Robert Herring  
24 to a Thomas Flanagan, who has an e-mail address  
25 listed as @pa.gov. That e-mail flows over on

1 to Page Office Partners\_50.

2 Who is Mr. Flanagan? Do you  
3 recognize that name?

4 A. I recognize the name. I believe he  
5 was employed by the PA DEP.

6 Q. And other recipients copied on this  
7 e-mail are a variety of entities, including the  
8 Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority, Michael  
9 Baker, Buccini/Pollin, and I see that you're  
10 copied on this e-mail, as well as others.

11 On the last page of this exhibit,  
12 Office Partners\_50, there's a paragraph that  
13 reads, "Based on the foregoing, please be  
14 advised that the PWSA takes no exception to  
15 designating the Block G flows entirely to the  
16 First National Bank Financial Tower."

17 Does that sentence make sense to  
18 you, based on the discussion that we just had  
19 relating to flows and subdivision?

20 A. It does. It relates to PWSA  
21 agreeing to prioritizing a time-sensitive  
22 project, assigning flows that had previously  
23 been approved for the entirety of that block to  
24 that one parcel, and permitting progress on  
25 subsequent approvals to advance.

1           A.     So there had been a prior approval  
2     for a planning module, essentially, like a  
3     capacity confirmation that had been relied upon  
4     as being a completed approval.

5                     A lot of these conversations deal  
6     with a new interpretation for -- our belief  
7     that it was a new interpretation that those  
8     approvals needed to be revisited subsequent to  
9     subdivision.

10                    At the same time, it's my  
11     understanding that we couldn't get a tap-in  
12     permit -- a tap-in application approved until  
13     such time that there were any questions  
14     resolved with the planning module.

15                    So they may be related, but I think  
16     there are two distinct applications and  
17     approvals that are being sought.

18           Q.     You were copied on this specific  
19     e-mail and on this broader communication that's  
20     the subject of this exhibit, Mr. Kaplan.

21                    Was your interpretation or the  
22     interpretation of Office Partners at this time  
23     that the PA DEP was going to stand in the way  
24     of or otherwise impede either of the  
25     applications that you just referenced, either

1 the planning module or the PWSA tap-in  
2 application?

3 A. By late December it looked like they  
4 were agreeing to our moving forward with the  
5 project.

6 Q. Okay. Thank you.

7 On Page Office Partners\_47 at the  
8 top there's an e-mail that starts on the  
9 previous page, starts on Office Partners\_46  
10 from Toby Partridge to Shannon Connell from  
11 PWSA.

12 You are not copied on that e-mail,  
13 Mr. Kaplan, but there's a very brief exchange  
14 there between Toby and Shannon where Toby says,  
15 "Sorry for bugging you again." And then later  
16 in the e-mail Mr. Partridge asks, "When will we  
17 hear about the final tap fee amount."

18 This e-mail was sent on January 3,  
19 2022, which, of course, is after the date of  
20 the December 23 letter.

21 At that time, at the end of December  
22 of 2022 and in the first days of January  
23 2022 -- at the end of December 2021 and in the  
24 first days of 2022, these time sensitivities  
25 for the approval of Office Partners'

1 applications existed; is that correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Is that the basis, as far as you can  
4 tell, of Mr. Partridge's e-mail to Shannon  
5 Connell to, in effect, check in on the PWSA's  
6 issuance of the permits to get them expedited?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. At the very top of this exhibit, the  
9 very first e-mail on Page Office Partners\_44,  
10 Matthew Corace states that, "We have to talk  
11 tomorrow on steps with getting this check in  
12 the hands of PWSA ASAP," and in all capital  
13 letters, "HIGH PRIORITY!"

14 You're not on this e-mail. Do you  
15 interpret this e-mail as, again, underscoring  
16 the time sensitivity of the PWSA's approval of  
17 the permit?

18 A. I do.

19 Q. Okay. Thank you.

20 I'll direct you back to the  
21 Complaint here, we're still on Paragraph 10.  
22 That's on the second Page 2 of the exhibit.

23 I'm going to direct you here to the  
24 last sentence of Paragraph 10 which reads. "In  
25 addition, Office Partners wanted to change the

1 plans due to other structural considerations."

2 At this time what other structural  
3 considerations was Office Partners looking to  
4 change in its application?

5 A. I believe we also received guidance  
6 from Baker as to updated technical calculations  
7 on the respective parcels, the G1 and G4  
8 parcels, which would change the -- the overall  
9 usage on those parcels, and I think we also  
10 reflect different fees associated with the  
11 updated technical capacity projections.

12 Q. When did Michael Baker provide  
13 Office Partners with those updated technical  
14 specifications? Do you remember the specific  
15 date?

16 A. I do not.

17 Q. Do you remember whether it was in  
18 December 2021? January 2022? If you don't  
19 remember, that's okay.

20 A. I don't remember.

21 Q. Okay. And you think those updated  
22 technical specifications relate to usage?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. As you sit here today, can you  
25 remember any other updated technical

1 specifications that Baker provided to Office  
2 Partners?

3 A. I do not.

4 Q. Do you know when Office Partners  
5 first communicated those updated technical  
6 specifications to the PWSA?

7 A. I do not.

8 Q. Okay. Back to Exhibit 2, which is  
9 the Office Partners' discovery responses.

10 A. Okay.

11 Q. I'll refer you to Interrogatory  
12 No. 6, which is located on Page 9 of this  
13 document, which asks Office Partners to  
14 "Identify with particularity all of the reasons  
15 for your decision to attempt to withdraw your  
16 application on or about January 31, 2022."

17 Let me ask you a general question  
18 first before we get into Office Partners'  
19 response. Why did Office Partners attempt to  
20 withdrawal its application for a tap-in permit  
21 to the PWSA on or about January 31, 2022?

22 A. I think there were several factors  
23 that led to that decision. We had  
24 conversations through the end of '21 and early  
25 in 2022 related to the two parcel ownerships on

1 Block G.

2 There were many conversations  
3 throughout January related to, ultimately, the  
4 fees that were due and the rate structure that  
5 was going to be applied to that application.

6 And based on those conversations  
7 with staff and with leadership, we decided to  
8 proceed with withdrawing the application.

9 Q. When you refer to staff and  
10 leadership, are you referring to the staff and  
11 leadership of Office Partners or the PWSA?

12 A. I believe it was both.

13 Q. And you think those conversations  
14 occurred in December of 2021 and January of  
15 2022?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. Some of these may overlap with what  
18 you just said, Mr. Kaplan, but in Office  
19 Partners' response to Interrogatory No. 6, a  
20 number of factors are identified. One of which  
21 is the "Logistics of the project."

22 What logistics -- well, actually  
23 it's not a direct quote. "Logistical reasons"  
24 -- no. Strike that. It does say "logistics of  
25 the project."

1                   What were the logistics of the  
2 project that led to Office Partners purporting  
3 to withdrawal its application?

4           A.     I don't know.

5           Q.     Okay. What about costs?

6           A.     Well, certainly in January, you  
7 know, we had discussions regarding the fees  
8 associated with this application. We were  
9 aware of a new rate structure that was in  
10 effect as of January 2022, and we were seeking  
11 to find ways to have that new rate structure  
12 apply to the permit we were trying to secure  
13 from PWSA.

14          Q.     Did Office Partners have any  
15 communications with the PWSA relating to the  
16 costs of the tap-in permit fee prior to Office  
17 Partners learning about the new tariff rate  
18 going into effect in January of 2022?

19          A.     I believe that our representatives  
20 did. Part of their responsibilities is not  
21 just to secure permits, but also to advise us  
22 as to what those permits cost.

23          Q.     Do you remember which of your Office  
24 Partners representatives had those  
25 conversations with the PWSA and when?

1           A.     I don't know that any of our  
2 employees had those conversations with PWSA. I  
3 expect that our engineers did and they were  
4 advising our staff.

5           Q.     What would those conversations have  
6 entailed? And by that I mean is was Office  
7 Partners seeking to get a discount on its  
8 tap-in permit application fee off of what was  
9 contained in the 2021 tariff?

10           MR. NERNBERG:  Objection as to  
11 form.  You can answer.

12           THE WITNESS:  I don't believe  
13 we ever sought any kind of discounts.  We  
14 wanted to pay then applicable rates.

15 BY MR. HORNAK:

16           Q.     Then applicable.  What is the "then"  
17 in that statement?  What rate did Office  
18 Partners want to pay?

19           A.     Whatever the prevailing rate was  
20 when we secured the permit.

21           Q.     Okay.  Did those conversation occur  
22 in 2021?

23           A.     I don't know if they did.

24           Q.     Okay.  Office Partners' response to  
25 Interrogatory No. 6 also references ownership

1 structure as being one of the bases for Office  
2 Partners' attempt to withdrawal its  
3 application.

4 What was the implication of  
5 ownership structure on the attempt to  
6 withdrawal?

7 A. Again, the G1 and G4 parcels are  
8 separately owned. They were part of a single  
9 application made in 2021. There were lingering  
10 concerns about the need to bifurcate the  
11 application into the respective ownerships --

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. -- of those two parcels.

14 Q. Okay. What about planning module  
15 reviews with PA DEP in late 2021? What was the  
16 implication of that planning module review on  
17 Office Partners' attempt to withdrawal its  
18 application?

19 A. Again, the Department of  
20 Environmental Protection, PA DEP, reviewed our  
21 prior approvals for sewer planning module  
22 capacity and indicated that subdivisions that  
23 occurred after those approvals had taken place  
24 would impact the availability of the planning  
25 module approval, and so to align our

1 applications with that guidance from DEP, it  
2 was important to find ways to separate the  
3 applications.

4 Q. Okay. Office Partners' response to  
5 No. 6 also references, "Weighing the equities  
6 of paying an unreasonable fee while also having  
7 to pay higher annual usage charges on a going  
8 forward basis," and that continues but I'll  
9 stop there.

10 What did Office Partners mean by  
11 that phrase that I just read about weighing the  
12 equities as a basis for its attempt to  
13 withdrawal the permit application?

14 A. Sure. Office Partners is developing  
15 a large commercial property that's hopefully  
16 going to be around for 100 years. The new 2022  
17 rate structure impacts not just what's paid up  
18 front but downstream usage fees.

19 It seemed unreasonable to me and  
20 members of our team at the time that this new  
21 project would be subjected to ongoing,  
22 increased fees over many decades and also be  
23 subject to a much higher upfront fee for  
24 tap-ins that were no longer in effect.

25 By no longer in effect, I mean that

1 by January 2022, there was a new rate structure  
2 that reduced those upfront costs. And given  
3 that we did not receive any benefit from an  
4 approval in 2021, that we hadn't received a  
5 permit, we didn't have a permit date, that we  
6 couldn't pursue other permits that we needed in  
7 2021. All of that became possible only after  
8 potentially picking up a permit in 2022. We  
9 wanted to find ways to utilize a savings for  
10 the project.

11 Q. Is it Office Partners' position that  
12 any applicant, not just Office Partners, that  
13 paid a pre-2022 tap-in permit fee should be  
14 either reimbursed or relieved from the  
15 obligation of that upfront permit fee on the  
16 basis of the higher usage rates going forward?

17 MR. NERNBERG: Objection.  
18 You're asking him to provide a legal  
19 conclusion.

20 MR. HORNACK: My response to  
21 the objection is that I'm asking for Office  
22 Partners' position on it, on the central issue  
23 in this case.

24 MR. NERNBERG: I disagree.  
25 Office Partners' filed the Complaint on its

1 own behalf. It did not file a Complaint on any  
2 other applicant. This is not a policy issue,  
3 as far as outside of the four walls of the  
4 Complaint.

5 You can answer the question the best  
6 to your ability.

7 Just to the extent that you're  
8 asking for a legal conclusion, my objection  
9 stands.

10 MR. HORNAK: Understood. Let  
11 me ask the question a different way.

12 BY MR. HORNAK:

13 Q. If Office Partners had applied for,  
14 was approved for, and received a permit in  
15 2020, would Office Partners be taking the same  
16 position in this case that the higher usage  
17 fees in the future are inequitable because of a  
18 high upfront application fee?

19 A. No.

20 Q. What is the difference between a  
21 potential Office Partners' application in 2020  
22 and the application that is the basis of this  
23 case?

24 A. Again, we had no benefit at all to  
25 the approved plans in 2021. They occurred in

1 extent that you are. I don't necessarily  
2 object to position questions, but I think we're  
3 going little bit far afield as far as the  
4 Complaint.

5 I know you want to finish your  
6 question and I'm sorry for interrupting. If  
7 you finish it, I may object again. But I think  
8 that we need to stick to the four walls of the  
9 Complaint and the facts at hand. But I'll  
10 allow -- ask the question again, I guess.

11 MR. HORNAK: I'll strike the  
12 question that's open. I think I got an answer  
13 to the previous question from Mr. Kaplan.

14 BY MR. HORNAK:

15 Q. Mr. Kaplan, are you aware that there  
16 was a -- what I'll call the rate case -- there  
17 was an action pending before the Pennsylvania  
18 Public Utility Commission beginning in March of  
19 2021 where filings have actually continued into  
20 calender year 2023 at Docket No. R2021-3024779?

21 Are you aware of this rate case,  
22 generally?

23 A. I am not.

24 Q. Do you know whether Office Partners  
25 ever made any filings with the PUC prior to the

1 filing of this Complaint relating to the PWSA's  
2 application of the 2022 tariff fees to either  
3 tap-in fees or usage fees?

4 A. I'm sorry. Can you just repeat that  
5 one more time?

6 Q. Absolutely. That was a long  
7 question. Are you aware of any filing that  
8 Office Partners made with the Pennsylvania  
9 Public Utility Commission prior to the filing  
10 of this Complaint?

11 A. I'm not aware of that.

12 Q. Do you know whether Office Partners  
13 has ever made any filing with the PUC --  
14 whether that be an objection to the PWSA's  
15 rates or the application of various tariffs --  
16 has Office Partners ever made any filing of  
17 that nature with the PUC?

18 A. I don't believe that Office Partners  
19 has.

20 Q. Okay. When did Office Partners  
21 first become aware that there was going to be a  
22 change in PWSA's fee structure in January of  
23 2022?

24 A. I can only speak to when I became  
25 aware of it. I think in early January of 2022,

1 discussed?

2 A. I believe it is.

3 Q. Did any entity, whether that be the  
4 PWSA or any other entity, advise Office  
5 Partners that Office Partners was required to  
6 revise its tap-in application?

7 A. I don't believe that PWSA told us  
8 that it was required to revise the  
9 applications.

10 Q. So the basis of this pleading that  
11 the revisions were required is Office Partners'  
12 own assessment?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. I'll turn to Paragraph 14 on that  
15 same page. "On February 22, 2022, PWSA  
16 approved the plan submitted by Office  
17 Partners."

18 Do you know whether that was the  
19 date when a permit was actually issued by the  
20 PWSA to Office Partners?

21 A. I don't believe that was the permit  
22 date. I think that was just an approval of the  
23 new plans.

24 Q. Okay. What I'll represent to you,  
25 Mr. Kaplan, is that the permit was actually

1 Q. Are you aware of any time, from the  
2 beginning of this application through the  
3 present, when Office Partners ever attempted to  
4 slow down consideration of a pending  
5 application to the PWSA?

6 A. I do not.

7 Q. In fact, it seems like the testimony  
8 today is that Office Partners, at all points,  
9 was attempting to expedite the PWSA's  
10 consideration; is that correct?

11 A. That is correct.

12 (Deposition Exhibit No. 6 was  
13 marked for identification.)

14 BY MR. HORNAK:

15 Q. Okay. I'll show you here a set of  
16 e-mails here, Mr. Kaplan, that we'll mark as  
17 Exhibit 6.

18 I'll direct your attention here to  
19 an e-mail that begins at the bottom of Page 753  
20 and continues on to Office Partners\_754.

21 MR. NERNBERG: Look at the  
22 bottom right.

23 BY MR. HORNAK:

24 Q. That's an e-mail that's from you to  
25 a number of parties, dated Thursday,

1 January 27, 2022. It continues on to the next  
2 page with a couple of sections numbered 1, 2,  
3 3, and then 1, 2, 3.

4 I want to direct your attention to  
5 both No. 3s in that same e-mail. In the first  
6 one you are characterizing the intent of Office  
7 Partners to "Request that both applications  
8 receive a 15-day expedited review and pay the  
9 \$1300 fee per application for expedited  
10 review."

11 What expedited review are you  
12 referring to in that e-mail?

13 A. I think by that date, the 27th of  
14 January, we were prepared to submit two new  
15 applications and we were also prepared to pay a  
16 fee associated with an expedited review of each  
17 of those two applications.

18 Q. So these e-mails relate to Office  
19 Partners' attempt to withdrawal its original  
20 application and submit what Office Partners'  
21 claims to be a new application.

22 Is it fair to say that Office  
23 Partners -- upon the submission of that alleged  
24 new application, Office Partners was seeking a  
25 expedited review of the revised new

1 application?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. Okay. The second No. 3 in that same  
4 e-mail, you asked -- I assume your team -- to  
5 quickly confirm that "Can we use the PWSA  
6 notice from December and other approvals to  
7 keep advancing the work in the field for  
8 another couple of weeks?"

9 It seems like the intent there would  
10 be to use the December 23 letter, that is  
11 Exhibit 4 to today's deposition, as a basis to  
12 keep work progressing even after the submission  
13 of what Office Partners claims to be a new  
14 application?

15 A. I believe that's the case. That  
16 there were ongoing reviews that required PWSA  
17 final sign-off. We were trying to evidence  
18 interim reviews and interim progress to permit  
19 additional work to proceed.

20 Q. So Office Partners wanted to use the  
21 December 23 letter as a basis to keep work  
22 progressing for the milestones you previously  
23 identified even post withdrawal of an  
24 application during an expedited post withdrawal  
25 review?

1           A.     I think we also referenced other  
2     approvals and any additional evidence to  
3     indicate that we can keep advancing.

4           Q.     Okay. Can you describe,  
5     Mr. Kaplan -- and I can show you some  
6     e-mails -- can you describe the efforts that  
7     Office Partners made to communicate with either  
8     city leadership or other interested entities to  
9     convince the PWSA to apply the 2022 tariff rate  
10    to the Office Partners' application?

11                   Do you know who Office Partners  
12    communicated with? Do you know what  
13    communications occurred?

14           A.     I believe I do, generally. I think  
15    those communications were primarily at the  
16    staff level. There was a line of communication  
17    between our representatives and staff at the  
18    PWSA and those conversations were ongoing.

19                   We also pursued additional  
20    conversations through our local partners with  
21    leadership at the PWSA, and also reached out to  
22    other city municipal officials to initiate  
23    conversations.

24                   I think this is pretty standard for  
25    what we do with all agencies in terms of

1 negotiations and discussions at staff level,  
2 leadership level, and so on.

3 Q. Did you ever personally participate  
4 in any of those conversations, Mr. Kaplan, with  
5 either city officials or any other political  
6 officials?

7 A. I don't believe that I did.

8 Q. So when you say they were on a staff  
9 level, they were your staff at Buccini/Pollin  
10 or other representatives of Office Partners?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. I'll show you another set of e-mails  
13 here, Mr. Kaplan. Beginning with Office  
14 Partners Page 509, this is a document also  
15 produced to the PWSA by Office Partners.

16 MR. NERNBERG: Are we going to  
17 mark this as an exhibit?

18 MR. HORNAK: Yes. We'll call  
19 this Exhibit 7.

20 (Deposition Exhibit No. 7 was  
21 marked for identification.)

22 BY MR. HORNAK:

23 Q. The first e-mail I would like to  
24 direct you to is at the bottom of Page 509 and  
25 it goes on to 510. This is an e-mail from you

1 to Kevin Acklin, Mr. Howze, and several others,  
2 dated January 19, 2022, at 1:26 p.m.

3 If you could read that e-mail and  
4 let me know when you're finished.

5 A. I'm ready.

6 Q. So the last sentence of this reads,  
7 "We are also exploring an alternative (a Hail  
8 Mary) whereby we have Baker make an amendment  
9 to the previously submitted tap-in plans so  
10 that there's no ambiguity that the basis of the  
11 permit was reviewed after the January 12 date  
12 for the new fee structure."

13 Can you explain what you meant by  
14 that sentence, Mr. Kaplan?

15 A. Sure. I think by the 19th of  
16 January we had had several conversations  
17 through our representatives about the approvals  
18 and the rate structure that was going to be  
19 applied.

20 Those conversations were not leading  
21 to a satisfactory resolution, and so we were  
22 starting to explore alternatives to picking up  
23 a permit based on the 2021 application.

24 Q. So as I read that sentence in this  
25 e-mail, Mr. Kaplan, it sounds like the

1 amendment or the modifications to the prior  
2 application, the reasons that we've discussed  
3 today, it sounds like a pretext that the real  
4 reason why Office Partners wanted to submit --  
5 withdrawal its application and make revisions  
6 is strictly for the basis of securing the new  
7 rate; is that correct?

8 A. I don't think that's correct. It's  
9 not strictly for the new rate, but certainly  
10 the new rate, I think, is a very large  
11 component in the decision.

12 As we became aware and quantified  
13 the difference between the rate structure of  
14 2021 and the rate structure of 2022, the  
15 difference of upfront fees was -- I'll speak  
16 just in order of magnitude of it -- like, half  
17 a million dollars, and that was sufficient to  
18 pursue additional conversations, additional  
19 applications, additional effort to secure a  
20 very substantial savings for the project.

21 Q. And securing that savings was one  
22 of -- and I think you just said a major reason  
23 for withdrawing the initial application and  
24 submitting a new modified application?

25 A. Correct.

1           conversations to see if we had to make any  
2           modifications at that time.

3           Q.     Okay.

4           A.     But certainly I remember around  
5           January of 2022 is when we were really looking  
6           more intently at the possibility of a  
7           withdrawal and resubmission.

8           Q.     Understood. You've referenced in  
9           the last couple minutes, Mr. Kaplan, the cost  
10          savings that Office Partners would realize if  
11          the 2022 tariff rate were applied versus the  
12          2021 tariff rate, and I would like to get some  
13          information about the relative size of this  
14          permit fee and the overall budget for the  
15          Office Partners project.

16                    What is the overall project for the  
17          FNB Tower project?

18          A.     The overall project, which is  
19          inclusive of acquiring the land, doing all of  
20          the engineering and architectural services,  
21          building the project, improving the space with  
22          tenant improvements, is around \$240 million.

23          Q.     Okay. Throughout 2021, when Office  
24          Partners was in communications with the PWSA  
25          pressing the consideration of this tap-in

1 permit, what amount had Office Partners  
2 budgeted for the tap-in fee?

3 A. I believe the budget was in the 450  
4 to \$500,000 range.

5 Q. Okay. I think I just have a couple  
6 more questions for you.

7 A few minutes ago we were discussing  
8 Office Partners' desire to continue pressing  
9 ahead with certain approvals on the basis of  
10 the December 23, 2021 letter -- that's Exhibit  
11 4 today -- during this withdrawal,  
12 resubmission, and expedited review process; do  
13 you remember that testimony, Mr. Kaplan?

14 A. I do.

15 Q. What was the benefit of relying on  
16 the 2021 letter and pressing other approvals  
17 ahead even during the withdrawal and  
18 resubmission process, what was the benefit to  
19 Office Partners?

20 A. Just would you mind restating it?

21 Q. I don't mind at all. I apologize  
22 for asking an unclear question.

23 Your testimony, as I understand it,  
24 is that Office Partners wanted to rely on the  
25 December 23, 2021 correspondence from the PWSA

1           Q.     So during the withdrawal and  
2           resubmission process, Office Partners hoped to  
3           continue with construction and the project,  
4           generally, at, least, in part, on the basis of  
5           the 2021 approval letter?

6           A.     I think over the course of January  
7           and February, as this was ongoing, we were told  
8           by our construction management team that they  
9           had a little more latitude regarding their  
10          schedules and, I believe, that was part of what  
11          we used to calculate and decide to do a  
12          withdrawal; that there was more -- that there  
13          was additional capacity for us to secure the  
14          PWSA approval.

15          Q.     What do you mean by additional  
16          capacity for Office Partners to secure the PWSA  
17          approval?

18          A.     I meant there was additional time  
19          for us to secure the tap-in approvals. By that  
20          point in time, there wasn't an immediate need  
21          to tap in and that it made sense for us to  
22          resolve the ongoing discussion with PWSA and,  
23          if necessary, withdrawal the application and  
24          file new applications.

25                   MR. HORNAK: I don't think I

1 have any further questions, Mr. Kaplan. Your  
2 counsel may have some questions. Thank you for  
3 appearing today.

4 MR. NERNBERG: I might just  
5 have a few.

6 EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. NERNBERG:

8 Q. Boris, you were asked about the  
9 budget of this project; do you recall those  
10 questions?

11 A. I do.

12 Q. And have you managed budgets for  
13 other projects?

14 A. I have.

15 Q. Do projects -- have projects you've  
16 managed ever come below budget?

17 A. Maybe one or two.

18 Q. And have projects you've managed  
19 gone above budget?

20 A. Yes. Maybe one or two.

21 Q. As a project manager, what is your  
22 goal with regard to managing projects under or  
23 over budget?

24 A. The budget consists of many, many  
25 line items. My goal is to balance those line

1 items in such a fashion that we deliver  
2 projects on budget.

3 Q. And so is it -- can it happen that  
4 some line items are increased and some line  
5 items are decreased?

6 A. Certainly. It happens all the time.  
7 And certainly it's my duty to keep identifying  
8 reasonable savings that could be realized in a  
9 way that offsets potential increases that occur  
10 across the rest of the budget.

11 Q. Could you take a look at Exhibit 3  
12 again? That's the Complaint. Page 2 of the  
13 second part, please.

14 A. With the Item 7 at the top?

15 Q. Yes. You were asked about two  
16 paragraphs. I just wanted you to read the two  
17 paragraphs into the record.

18 Could you read Paragraph 8, please?

19 A. Paragraph 8. "On December 23, 2021,  
20 the PWSA by letter accepted the tap in plans  
21 but informed Office Partners the permit would  
22 not be considered approved until the permit  
23 fees were paid."

24 Q. And could you read -- sorry --  
25 Paragraph 14, please?

1 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA )  
 ) SS  
2 COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY )

3 CERTIFICATE

4 I, Michelle L. Goehring, a notary public  
in and for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do  
5 hereby certify that the witness, BORIS KAPLAN,  
was by me first duly sworn to testify the  
6 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the  
truth; that the foregoing deposition was taken  
7 at the time and place stated herein; and that  
the said deposition was recorded  
8 stenographically by me and then reduced to  
typewriting under my direction, and constitutes  
9 a true record of the testimony given by said  
witness.

10  
11 I further certify that I am not a  
relative, employee or attorney of any of the  
parties, or a relative or employee of either  
12 counsel, and that I am in no way interested  
directly or indirectly in this action.

13  
14 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my  
hand and affixed my seal of office this 1st day  
of May 2023.

15  
16  
17 /S/Michelle L. Goehring, Notary Public  
18 Court Reporter  
My Commission Expires: July 12, 2025  
19 Commission No. 1317058  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

# PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

## Formal Complaint

*Filing this form begins a legal proceeding and you will be a party to the case.  
If you do not wish to be a party to the case, consider filing an informal complaint.*

To complete this form, please type or print legibly in ink.

### 1. Customer (Complainant) Information

Provide your name, mailing address, county, telephone number(s), e-mail address and utility account number. It is your responsibility to update the Commission with any changes to your address and to where you want documents mailed to you.

Name Office Partners XXIII Block G1 LLC

Street/P.O. Box 1000 N. West Street, Suite 900 Apt # \_\_\_\_\_

City Wilmington State Deleware Zip 19801

County New Castle

Telephone Number(s) Where We Can Contact You During the Day (required):

\_\_\_\_\_ (home)                      (610) 202-8606 (mobile)

E-mail Address (required): bkaplan@bpgroup.net

Utility Account Number (from your bill) \_\_\_\_\_

**If your complaint involves utility service provided to a different address or in a different name than your mailing address, please list this information below.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street/P.O. Box 626 Washington Place

City Pittsburgh State PA Zip 15219

### 2. Name of Utility or Company (Respondent)

Provide the full name of the utility or company about which you are complaining. The name of your utility or company is on your bill.

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority



3. Type of Utility Service

Check the box listing the type of utility service that is the subject of your complaint (check only one):

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ELECTRIC         | <input type="checkbox"/> STORM WATER  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GAS              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WASTEWATER/SEWER                          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WATER | <input type="checkbox"/> TELEPHONE/TELECOMMUNICATIONS (local, long distance)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STEAM HEAT       | <input type="checkbox"/> MOTOR CARRIER (e.g. taxi, moving company, limousine) |

4. Reason for Complaint

**What kind of problem are you having with the utility or company?** Check all boxes below that apply and state the reason for your complaint. Explain specifically what you believe the utility or company has done wrong. Provide relevant details including dates, times and places and any other information that may be important. If the complaint is about billing, tell us the amount you believe is not correct. Use additional paper if you need more space. **Your complaint may be dismissed without a hearing if you do not provide specific information.**

- The utility is threatening to shut off my service or has already shut off my service.
- I would like a payment agreement.
- Incorrect charges are on my bill. Provide dates that are important and an explanation about any amounts or charges that you believe are not correct. Attach a copy of the bill(s) in question if you have it/them.
- I am having a reliability, safety or quality problem with my utility service. Explain the problem, including dates, times or places and any other relevant details that may be important.
- Other (explain). See Complaint being submitted herewith.

**Note:** If your complaint is only about removing or modifying a municipal lien filed by the City of Philadelphia, the Public Utility Commission (PUC) cannot address it. Only local courts in Philadelphia County can address this type of complaint. The PUC can address a complaint about service or incorrect billing even if that amount is subject to a lien.

In addition, the PUC generally does not handle complaints about cell phone or Internet service, but may be able to resolve a dispute regarding voice communications over the Internet (including the inability to make voice 911/E911 emergency calls) or concerns about high-speed access to Internet service.

**5. Requested Relief**

**How do you want your complaint to be resolved?** Explain what you want the PUC to order the utility or company to do. Use additional paper if you need more space.

See Complaint being submitted herewith.

**Note:** The PUC can decide that a customer was not billed correctly and can order billing refunds. The PUC can also fine a utility or company for not following rules and can order a utility or company to correct a problem with your service. Under state law, the PUC cannot decide whether a utility or company should pay customers for loss or damages. Damage claims may be sought in an appropriate civil court.

6. Protection From Abuse (PFA)/ Domestic Violence

Has a court granted you a "Protection From Abuse" order or any other order which provides clear evidence of domestic violence against you that is currently in effect for your personal safety or welfare? The PUC needs this information to properly process your complaint so that your identity is not made public.

Note: You must answer this question if your complaint is against a natural gas distribution utility, an electric distribution utility or a water distribution utility AND your complaint is about a problem involving billing, a request to receive service, a security deposit request, termination of service or a request for a payment agreement.

Has a court granted a "Protection From Abuse" order or any other order for your personal safety or welfare?

YES

NO

If your answer to the above question is "yes," attach a copy of the current Protection From Abuse order to this Formal Complaint form.

7. Prior Utility Contact

a. Is this an appeal from a decision of the PUC's Bureau of Consumer Services (BCS)?

YES

NO

Note: If you answered yes, move to Section 8. No further contact with the utility or company is required. If you answered no, answer the question in Section 7 b. and answer the question in Section 7 c. if relevant.

b. If this is not an appeal from a BCS decision, have you spoken to a utility or company representative about this complaint?

YES

NO

Note: You must contact the utility first if (1) you are a residential customer, (2) your complaint is against a natural gas distribution utility, an electric distribution utility or a water utility AND (3) your complaint is about a billing problem, a service problem, a termination of service problem, or a request for a payment agreement.

- c. If you tried to speak to a utility company representative about your complaint but were not able to do so, please explain why.

The issues in the complaint could not be resolved.

**Note:** Even if you are not required to contact the utility or company, you should always try to speak to a utility or company representative about your problem before you file a Formal Complaint with the PUC.

8. Legal Representation

If you are filing a Formal Complaint as an individual on your own behalf, you are not required to have a lawyer. You may represent yourself at the hearing.

If you are already represented by a lawyer in this matter, provide your lawyer's name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address, (all required contact information). Please make sure your lawyer is aware of your complaint. If represented by a lawyer, both you and your lawyer must be present at your hearing.

Lawyer's Name David M. Nernberg, Esq. – Maurice A. Nernberg & Associates

Street/P.O. Box 301 Smithfield Street

City Pittsburgh State PA Zip 15222

Area Code/Phone Number 412-232-0334

E-mail Address dmn@nernberg.com

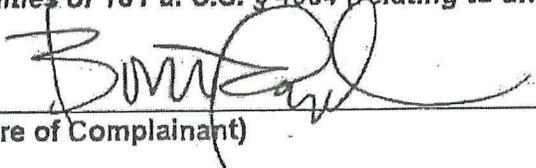
**Note:** Corporations, associations, partnerships, limited liability companies and political subdivisions are required to have a lawyer represent them at a hearing and to file any motions, answers, briefs or other legal pleadings.

9. Verification and Signature

You must sign your complaint. Individuals filing a Formal Complaint must print or type their name on the line provided in the verification paragraph below and must sign and date this form in ink. If you do not sign the Formal Complaint, the PUC will not accept it.

**Verification:**

I Boris Kaplan, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct (or are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief) and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Complainant)

06-15-22

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Authorized Signatory

Title of authorized employee or officer (only applicable to corporations, associations, partnerships, limited liability companies or political subdivisions)

Note: If the Complainant is a corporation, association, partnership, limited liability company or political subdivision, the verification must be signed by an authorized officer or authorized employee. If the Formal Complaint is not signed by one of these individuals, the PUC will not accept it.

10. How to File Your Formal Complaint

Electronically. You must create an account on the PUC's eFiling system, which may be accessed at <http://www.puc.pa.gov/efiling/default.aspx>.

Mail. Mail the completed form with your original signature and any attachments, by certified mail, priority mail, or overnight delivery to this address and retain the tracking information as proof of submission:

Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

If you are appealing a BCS decision: follow the directions in the cover letter you received from the Secretary's Bureau with the formal complaint form. ONLY Formal complaints appealing a BCS decision can be filed by fax, email or overnight delivery to meet filing deadlines. All other formal complaints MUST be eFiled or mailed.

If you have any questions about filling out this form, please contact the Secretary's Bureau at 717-772-7777.

Keep a copy of your Formal Complaint for your records.

Please know that your complaint form and the utility's answer will not be published to the PUC's website. Once your complaint case moves to the Office of Administrative Law Judge, any filings you make should be marked confidential if you do not want them published to the website.

**PENNSYLVANIA UTILITY COMMISSION  
COMPLAINT AGAINST THE PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY  
TO SET RATE FOR APPROVED PERMIT TO PETITIONER,  
OFFICE PARTNERS XXII BLOCK G1, LLC**

**Introduction:**

1. The Petitioner is Office Partners XXIII Block G1, LLC (“Office Partners”), a limited liability company with its principal place of business at 1000 N. West Street, Wilmington, DE 19801.

2. Respondent is the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (“PWSA”), a Pennsylvania municipal authority with its principal place of business at 1200 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

3. Office Partners is developing commercial property located in the City of Pittsburgh at a major development known as the FNB Financial Center, a large project both in size and in financial investment, meant to last over 100 years and be a major hub of the City of Pittsburgh.

4. Commercial developers are required by law to obtain PWSA approval for connection to PWSA facilities.

5. PWSA policy requires an application for the connection and, once approved, a permit is issued upon payment of the then prevailing rate. Exhibits A and B, PWSA Policy and Press Release.

**2021 Application Process and Withdrawal:**

6. On May 11, 2021 Office Partners submitted an application to tap into PWSA infrastructure.

7. Between August of 2021 until December 21, 2021 Office Partners and the PWSA communicated regarding the plan submissions.

8. On December 23, 2021, the PWSA by letter accepted the tap in plans but informed Office Partners the permit would not be considered approved until the permit fees were paid.

9. The fees were \$508,314.79. Exhibit C.

10. The application was made by Office Partners XXII Block G1, LLC, however, Office Partners realized that the plans submitted in 2021 encompassed two separate parcels with separate owners and that the permit applications for the G1 and G4 blocks should not be combined and would risk being rejected by the Commonwealth Agencies. In addition, Office Partners wanted to change the plans due to other structural considerations.

11. On January 31, 2022, Office Partners withdrew the 2021 Permit Application (which had yet to be approved as no payment was offered or made). Exhibit D.

**2022 Application Process:**

12. On February 4, 2022, Office Partners submitted new tap-in plans to the PWSA. Correspondence attached hereto as Exhibit E<sup>1</sup>. They were separate G1 & G4 applications, distinct from the prior applications and were required.

13. On February 15, 2022, Office Partners submitted revised tap-in plans to address verbal comments made by PWSA. Attached hereto as Exhibit F.

14. On February 22, 2022, PWSA approved the plans submitted by Office Partners. Attached hereto as Exhibit G.

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<sup>1</sup> The plans themselves are voluminous and already in PWSA's possession; as such, they need not be attached hereto but are available for this Court's review.

15. On February 23, 2022 Office Partners again submitted revised tap-in plans to address final comments made by PWSA. Attached hereto as Exhibit H.

16. Upon submission of the revised tap-in plans, PWSA verbally informed Office Partners that those revised plans were approved but that the permit for the same would not be issued until payment was made for the permit.

17. Pursuant to PWSA's 2022 rate schedule (attached hereto as Exhibit I and on file with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission), the fees for the taps and meters requested by Office Partners and approved by PWSA are as follows:

- a. 6" tap = \$400
- b. 8" tap = \$400
- c. 3" meter = \$1,540 (Compound Domestic)
- d. 5/8" x 3/4" = \$250 (Fire Line)

Total = \$2,590

18. Office Partners has also been advised that a \$250 application fee is due.

19. Office Partners was ready, willing and able to pay the fees and has offered to do so.

20. Despite the foregoing rates, PWSA demanded payment of \$508,314.79 to approve the plans submitted and issue the permit.

21. That fee does not apply pursuant to the PWSA rate schedule and PWSA policy.

**Procedural History:**

22. On February 25, 2022, Office Partners initiated a Mandamus Action before the Common Pleas Court of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania demanding that the PWSA issue the permit for the tendered 2022 fee schedule payment.

23. On March 9, 2022, the Parties entered into a consent order whereby they were to show cause why the Court had jurisdiction and, whereby Office Partners would pay \$506,647.18 into Court to be held until a final determination was made as to the fee being due, in exchange for the issuance of the permit at that time. The amount deposited in Court represents an earlier fee structure that was superseded when utility rates were increased but tap-in fees reduced.

24. Thereafter on May 6, 2022, the Parties entered into another consent decree whereby the Parties agreed to have this matter heard before the Pennsylvania Utility Commission "PUC," with the Court holding the funds until a final, non-appealable order is made.

25. Pursuant to the consent/settlement, Office Partners was to initiate the action before the PUC.

**Dispute and Matter in Controversy:**

26. The purpose of this Complaint is to require the PWSA to accept payment pursuant to the 2022 fee schedule for the 2022 approved permit and for the Court to refund the deposited funds to Office Partners.

27. The 2022 tap in fees structure was implemented with the encouragement of the PUC along with the implementation of higher usage rates. The purpose was to make the PWSA fiscally sound by not impeding development with up-front fees and develop usage rates to better support PWSA operations. Thus, if PWSA is able to collect under the old fee schedule AND charge usage rates under the new rate schedule, it will be unjustly enriched. PWSA is attempting to double dip. Especially given the size of the project, the investment therein and its likely lifespan of over 100 years.

28. The applicable tap in rates are those based upon the 2022 rate schedule and usage rates will also be pursuant to the 2022 rate schedule.

WHEREFORE, it is prayed that this Honorable Court declare that the applicable fees are the 2022 fees pled in this complaint, order issuance of the permit based upon the 2022 rate schedule and order the return all funds held in Court in excess of the amount due under the rate schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

MAURICE A. NERNBERG & ASSOCIATES

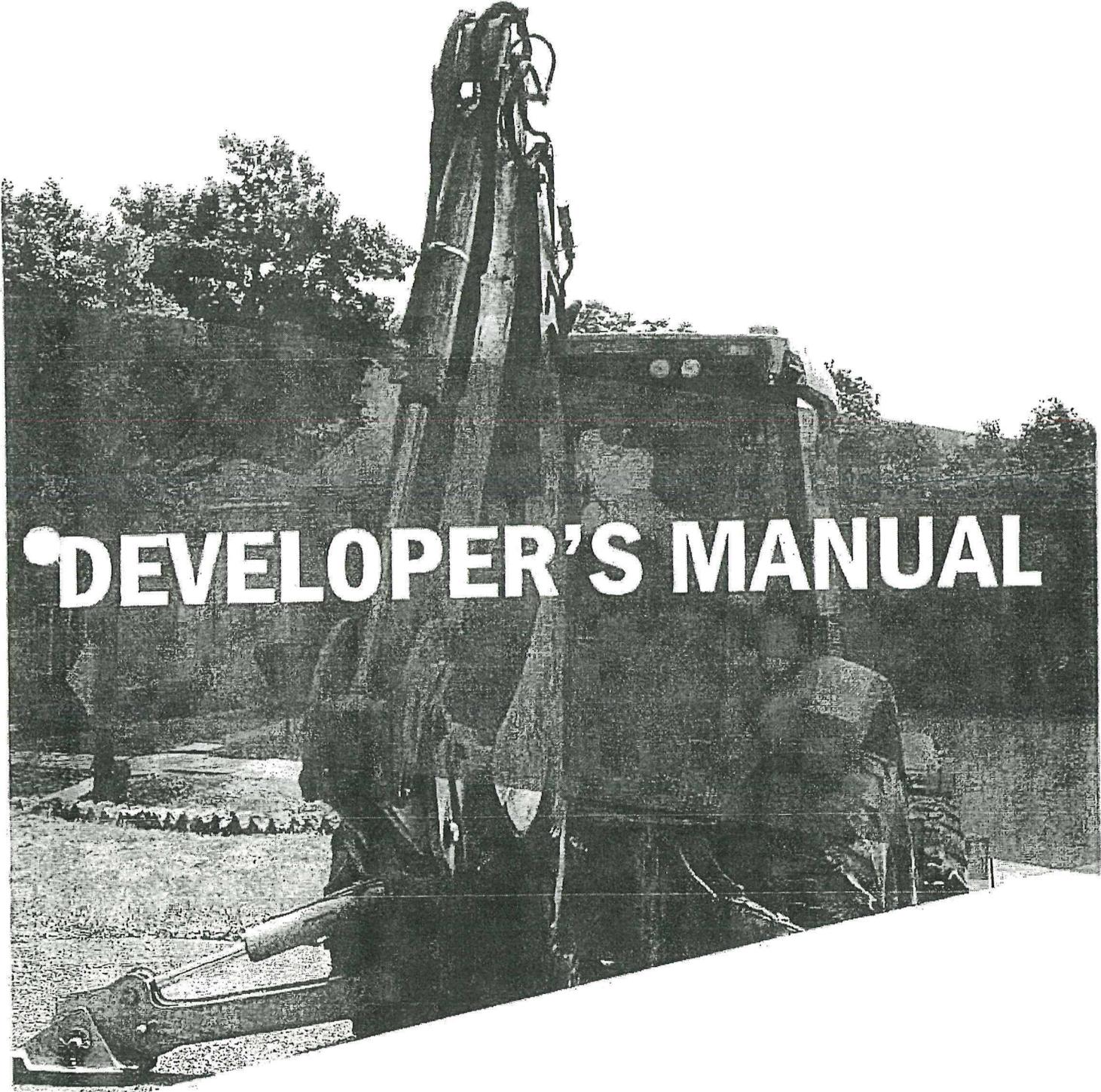
By



David M. Nernberg

1200 Penn Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

# PGH2O



# DEVELOPER'S MANUAL

EXHIBIT A

Revised April 23, 2021

## **PWSA Developer's Manual**

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## SECTION 1: PROCESS OVERVIEW

### Introduction

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) Developer's Manual outlines the regulations and procedures for developments connecting to public sewer or water facilities and constructing new facilities to be dedicated to PWSA. The purpose of this manual is to describe the permit application process, the requirements of the application materials, and the developer's responsibilities. To ensure timely review and approval of tap-in plans, this manual is to be used in conjunction with an open dialogue with PWSA.

More than one section of the manual may be applicable dependent upon the type of development and scope of work proposed by the applicant. In instances where the manual does not address a specific or unique site condition of a proposed development, the applicant should contact PWSA to determine if additional information is required.

PWSA is regulated by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC). Any standards set forth in this manual are subject to PUC review.

At minimum, this manual will be updated annually. More frequent updates may occur as procedures or regulations change.

### Development Permit Process

The following steps are a general overview of the development permit process. For more detailed information, please refer to the specific sections referenced throughout the manual. Single-family homes without fire service are not subject to the following steps and should review Section One: Single-family Residential Developments for more information. All other projects must follow this process. All submissions outlined below may occur simultaneously or in succession based on the scope and timeline of the proposed development.

PWSA requires electronic submission of all applications and drawings for development projects using e-Builder. After the pre-development meeting described below, PWSA staff will provide a unique e-Builder email address which will be utilized for all submissions and reviews associated with the development. Applications and documents are not considered submitted unless sent to the e-Builder folder.

All applications must include required documentation outlined in this manual or on our website. Failure to provide will result in a delayed approval.



**Step One: Pre-Development Meeting**

Prior to submittal of the permit application, the applicant is required to request a pre-development meeting. A meeting request may be submitted early in the planning process or after preliminary tap-in plans have been designed. If you have engaged an engineer, it is highly recommended that they attend the meeting.

To request a meeting, submit the pre-development meeting request form [found on our website](#) to [inbox@workflow.e-Builder.net](mailto:inbox@workflow.e-Builder.net). Please attach any site plans, drawings, flow calculations or other relevant documents to this email.

**Step Two: Water and Sewer Availability Letter Request**

All applications must include a Water and Sewer Availability Letter Request. Complete and submit the form to [permitinfo@pgh2o.com](mailto:permitinfo@pgh2o.com). PWSA staff will review and return a Water and Sewer Availability Letter Packet that includes the completed letter request form detailing infrastructure near the site, a will-serve letter, and infrastructure maps. The letter provided is required to be submitted with any final Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) applications. Some lenders may also require a will-serve letter.

The water and sewer availability letter is not a permit and all procedures set forth in this document must be completed to obtain approval.

**Step Three: Water and Sewer Use Application**

A PWSA Water and Sewer Use Application must be completed by an applicant for public water and sewer facilities planning. This form and its attachments are precursors to any sewage facilities planning modules required separately by the DEP.

PWSA requires that the form be completed and submitted for the following scenarios:

1. Any development located on a lot that was created after May 15, 1972
2. Any residential development larger than one (1) single-family residential dwelling
3. Any development that contains commercial, industrial, and/or institutional uses
4. Any development that is repurposing an existing structure

Detailed instructions are covered in the [Water and Sewer Use Application section](#) of this manual.

**Step Four: DEP Sewage Facilities Planning Module**

Any development within the PWSA service area that meets the DEP's criteria will be required to complete sewage planning. The requirement for sewage planning depends on a variety of factors, including but not limited to, the Existing Flows, Project Flows, Net Flows, date of lot creation, previous planning module approvals, etc.



Detailed instructions are covered in the DEP Sewage Facilities Planning Module section.

#### **Step Five: Tap-in Plans**

Most development projects will require water and/or sewer tap-in plans to be reviewed and approved by PWSA staff. No work on existing or new taps, including terminations, is to begin prior to obtaining this approval.

Detailed drawing requirements are covered in the Tap-in Procedures section.

#### **Construction and/or Relocation of PWSA Facilities**

A development may require an extension, relocation, or construction of PWSA facilities to provide water or sewer service. A development agreement and construction drawings will be required.

Requirements are detailed in the Private Construction of Public Facilities section.

#### **Review Procedures and Fees**

PWSA will review applications in the order received. Baseline review times are 30 days per review. Review times may vary depending on volume and complexity.

Revisions to issued permits will not be expedited and will be reviewed in the order received. Exceptions to this policy may be permitted at the discretion of PWSA.

If tap-in plans require more than 2 reviews, \$250 will be required for each additional review. No additional reviews will be conducted without additional fee payments being made.

If a permit is issued, an additional \$250 fee will be required for any revisions to plans.

Additional fees may be required including but not limited to:

- waterline shut permit fee
- hydrant flow test permit fee
- tapping fees
- tap and meter costs
- sewage facilities planning module review fee (DEP)
- street closure and traffic obstruction permits (DOMI)
- building permit fees (PLI)
- plumbing permit fee (ACHD)



To see a complete list of PWSA fees, review our [fee schedule](#) on our website. An explanation of fees can be found in the [Tapping Fees](#) section of this manual. PWSA does not provide a preliminary cost estimation prior to issuing the official tap-in fees.

**Permit Expiration**

Approved permit refers to an application that has met all the requirements as outlined in this manual and has received a final invoice. Approved permits are valid for six (6) months from date of approval. If the final invoice is not paid within six (6) months, the permit becomes invalid, and the application may be required to restart the application process.

Issued permit refers to an approved permit that has paid the final invoice and received a permit from PWSA. Issued permits are valid for a period of five (5) years from date of issuance.

**Millvale Water Service Area**

Developments within the Millvale PWSA water service area must meet the minimum requirements described herein for water service. Sewer service and the DEP Sewage Facilities Planning Module shall be completed according to the rules and regulations of Millvale Borough and Girty's Run Joint Sewer Authority.



**SECTION 2: SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS****Overview**

Single-family residential developments are equal to one single-family residential unit. Single family residential units with fire service or developments on land that has been subdivided to include multiple single-family homes are not considered a single-family residential development and shall fall under the regulations set forth in the remaining sections of this manual.

Single-family residential developments are not required to submit tap-in drawings to obtain water and sewer service, but they must obtain a Residential Permit from PWSA prior to completing any water or sewer work.

**Submission Requirements**

To obtain a Residential Permit, the applicant is to complete and submit the residential permit application form (FORM RES). All fields must be completed and signed by owner.

All fees are to be paid at the time of permit issuance and prior to start of work. Current fees are outlined in our [Tapping Fees section](#).

Although not subject to tap-in plan review, all water and sewer work for single-family homes are required to meet PWSA minimum standards for tap installation outlined in the [Tap-in Procedure section](#).

Any work will also require approval from the Allegheny County Health Department. Contact information can be found on our website.



## SECTION 3: WATER AND SEWER USE APPLICATION

### Overview

The Water and Sewer (W/S) Use Application is to establish the water and sewer flows associated with a proposed development. The flows shall represent the peak daily flow, which is defined as the maximum volume of water/wastewater during a continuous 24-hour period, expressed in gallons per day (gpd). The approved flows shall be utilized by the PWSA for the calculation of the Tapping Fees, if required.

In addition, the approved flows shall be utilized by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to determine if sewage planning is required. For additional information on sewage planning, please refer to the section titled "Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Sewage Facilities Planning Module". The Applicant must receive the W/S Use Approval prior to submitting the Sewage Facilities Planning Module, if required.

A W/S Use Approval shall be required for the following situations:

1. Any development located on a lot that was created after May 15, 1972
2. Any residential development larger than one (1) single-family residential dwelling
3. Any development that contains commercial, industrial, and/or institutional uses
4. Any development that is repurposing an existing structure

### Submission Requirements

The Water and Sewer Use Application is to be completed and submitted electronically through e-Builder. To obtain an e-Builder folder, the applicant must have attended a pre-development meeting.

All supplemental documentation must be submitted with the W/S Use application.

### Supplemental Documentation

#### Site Plan

The site plan shall contain the following information:

- Existing structures located within the project site and nearby vicinity
- Property lines
- Entire property, including any residual tract
- Connection to any PWSA facilities (i.e. water, sanitary and storm)
- Plan orientation



- Existing and proposed rights-of-way and easements
- Existing and proposed improvements (i.e. roadways, sidewalks, etc.)
- Waterways and wetlands

The applicant can submit the tap-in drawings in lieu of the site plan. Instructions for preparing tap-in drawings can be found in the Tap-in Procedures section. Submitting the tap-in plans as part of the w/s use application does not preclude the applicant from submitting a separate tap-in plan PDF for review.

#### **Floor Plans**

The PWSA requires floor plans to confirm the flow calculation methodology. The applicant shall provide a minimum size of 11-inch x 17-inch. The floor plans shall be drawn to scale and display the square footage of each floor, number of rooms and/or any special conditions or features.

#### **Project Narrative**

The project narrative shall provide relevant background information on the project. The Applicant shall use the narrative to “tell the story” of the development. Typically, the narrative will include descriptions on the existing and proposed conditions and uses. In addition, the Applicant may provide the project location, construction timeline, ownership group, consultant information, relevant history, adjacent PWSA infrastructure, conclusions from the PWSA predevelopment meeting, permit requirements, etc.

#### **Flow Calculations**

The flow calculations shall provide the means and methods for calculating the Existing Flows, Project Flows and Net Flows. In addition, the flow calculations shall be sealed by a Professional Engineer registered in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. As previously discussed, the flows shall represent the peak daily flow, which is defined as the maximum volume of water/wastewater during a continuous 24-hour period, expressed in gallons per day (gpd). As a result, the applicant shall assume full occupancy, maximum turnover, etc. We understand that the DEP flow estimates may appear much higher than anticipated usage due to the use of low-flow fixtures, etc. However, please note that the flow estimates are attempting to estimate the peak daily flow, not the average daily usage.

The PWSA may consider flow calculations based on alternative estimation methods. The applicant shall provide justification for the alternative calculation methodology. Please be advised that the flow estimates shall represent the peak daily flows.

The flow calculations shall be broken down into water demand and sanitary flows. In addition, flow calculations must be provided for each use within the development (i.e. retail, residential, office, etc.). The applicant shall include HVAC condensate in the sanitary flow calculations for any commercial, industrial and institutional uses.



### Existing Flow

The PWSA defines "existing flow" as the peak daily flow within the past five (5) years. The applicant can claim existing flows if the property contains a structure that has been occupied within the past five (5) years. The existing flows shall be calculated via flow estimates established by the DEP. The applicant shall support their calculations by providing floor plans of the existing structure, and any other documentation that will support the flow calculation methodology.

The PWSA reserves the right to require historical water usage data, in lieu of the flow estimate values, to establish the existing flows. In these instances, the PWSA will allow the use of a peaking factor of 2.5 to establish the peak daily flow. The applicant shall be responsible to provide historical water usage data requested by the PWSA. The applicant can contact PWSA's Customer Service for historical water usage data for a fee of \$15.

### Project Flow

The PWSA defines "project flow" as the peak daily flow that will be generated by the project. The project flows shall be calculated via flow estimates established by the DEP and provided in Table 1 below. The applicant shall support their calculations by providing floor plans of the proposed structure and clearly indicating the applicable information (i.e. floor area, number of apartments, etc.). The PWSA is reviewing information supplied by others and is not responsible to conduct additional work beyond confirming the information that is submitted.

Please see below for a few common uses and the associated information that would be required for the flow calculations:

- Restaurant and/or Bar:
  - o Maximum occupancy
  - o Number of turnovers per day, typically three (3)
- Hotel:
  - o Number of hotel rooms
  - o Presence of any public retail or restaurant facilities
- Residential:
  - o Number of equivalent dwelling units from single-family residences, apartments, townhouses, duplexes, and condominiums
  - o Presence of public facilities, such as swimming pools, gyms, cafeterias, etc..
- Office:
  - o Maximum number of employees. The applicant shall assume 150 square feet of floor space per employee. The square footage can be limited to the office space, and does not need to include hallways, shared areas, etc.
  - o Number of any public restrooms, if any



### Net Flow

The PWSA defines "net flow" as the difference between the project flow and existing flow, as follows:

$$\text{Net Flow} = \text{Project Flow} - \text{Existing Flow}$$

As a result, please note that the net flow may be positive or negative, depending on if there is a net increase or decrease in usage. In addition, please note that tapping fees are based on the net flow.

**Table 3.1**  
**Water Use and Sanitary Sewage Flow Estimates**  
 (Flows are referenced from the PA Code Title 25 Chapter 73 Paragraph 73.17)

Type of Establishment	Projected Water Use and Sewage Flow (gallons per unit per day)
Single family dwelling (For units of 3 bedrooms or less. For each bedroom over 3, add 100 gallons.)	400
Multiple family dwellings, including townhouses, duplexes, and condominiums	400
Apartments:	
1 bedroom	150
2 bedrooms	300
Larger than 2 bedrooms	400
Efficiency Apartments	150
Hotels and motels (per unit)	100
Rooming houses (per unit)	200
Airline catering (per meal served)	3
Airports (per passenger—not including food)	5
Airports (per employee)	10
Beauty shops (per customer chair)	200
Bus service areas not including food (per patron and employee)	5
Country clubs not including food (per patron and employee)	30
Drive-in theaters (not including food—per space)	10
Factories and plants exclusive of industrial wastes (per employee)	35
Laundries, self-service (gallons/regular washer)	400
Laundries, self-service (gallons/front loading washer)	200
Mobile home parks, independent (per space)	400
Theaters (not including food, per auditorium seat)	5
Offices (per employee)	10
Restaurants (toilet and kitchen wastes per patron)	10
(Additional for bars and cocktail lounges)	2



Restaurants (kitchen and toilet wastes, single-service utensils/person)	8.5
Restaurant, fast food (kitchen and toilet wastes/patron)	6
Restaurants (kitchen waste only, single-service utensils/patron)	3
Stores (per public toilet)	400
Stores (per public urinal)	200
Stores (per public sink)	200
Warehouses (per employee)	35
Work or construction camps (semi-permanent) with flush toilets (per employee)	50
Work or construction camps (semi-permanent) without flush toilets (per employee)	35
Churches (per seat)	3
Churches (additional kitchen waste per meal served)	3
Churches (additional with paper service per meal served)	1.5
Hospitals (per bed space, with laundry)	300
Hospitals (per bed space, without laundry)	220
Institutional food service (per meal)	20
Institutions other than hospitals (per bed space)	125
Personal care home (per bed space)	125
Schools, boarding (per resident)	100
Schools, day (without cafeterias, gyms or showers per student and employee)	15
Schools, day (with cafeterias, but no gym or showers per student and employee)	20
Schools, day (with cafeterias, gym and showers per student and employee)	25
Camps, day (no meals served)	10
Camps, winter and summer residential (night and day) with limited plumbing including water-carried toilet wastes (per person)	50
Campgrounds, with individual sewer and water hookup (per space)	100
Campgrounds with water hookup only and/or central comfort station which includes water-carried toilet wastes (per space)	50
Fairgrounds and parks, picnic—with bathhouses, showers, and flush toilets (per person)	15
Fairgrounds and parks, picnic (toilet wastes only, per person)	5
Swimming pools and bathhouses (per person)	10
HVAC condensate from commercial, industrial & institutional facilities	Applicant to provide flow estimates that will be discharged to a PWSA sewer



### **Revised Water and Sewer Use Application**

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Applicants can request a refund for tap fees for an issued permit if actual project flows are less than the approved project flows. The applicant must resubmit a water and sewer use application and a \$250 review fee. Refunds may take 6-8 weeks to process. Refunds may be requested within 5 years of permit issuance date.

### **Technical Checklist for Water and Sewer Use Application**

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The following is a list of items that shall be included with the Water and Sewer Use application. Failure to provide the required information shall result in the rejection of the submittal package.

- Application Fee
- Water and Sewer Use Application Form
- Site Plan
- Floor Plans
- Project Narrative
- Flow Calculations



## SECTION 4: PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SEWAGE FACILITIES PLANNING MODULE

### Overview

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The Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act (Act 537, as amended) requires each municipality in Pennsylvania to have an Official Sewage Facilities Plan (Official Plan) to address existing and future sewage disposal needs. Please note that the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) administers and oversees the Act 537 regulations. The Official Plan for the City of Pittsburgh was originally approved by the DEP on May 15, 1972. The Sewage Facilities Planning Module (SFPM) is the instrument for legally amending the Official Plan to account for flows from new/unforeseen subdivisions and land developments. The SFPM requires review/approval from each Facility Owner within the sewerage system, including Collection (PWSA), Conveyance (ALCOSAN) and Treatment (ALCOSAN). Please be advised that the PWSA review/approval shall be limited to the collection system portions of the SFPM. Each Facility Owner conducts a review to understand how the proposed development will impact available dry-weather capacity and whether the proposed flows will create a dry-weather hydraulic overload within the next five (5) years.

Amendments to Act 537 have created a process by which certain developments may be exempt from the planning module process. However, in accordance with 25 Pa. Code 71.51(2), the exemption process requires that the existing collection, conveyance and treatment facilities are in compliance with the Clean Streams Law. On March 2, 2011, the DEP issued a determination that, due to an ongoing consent order regarding the discharge of untreated wastewater, the PWSA and ALCOSAN do not comply with the Clean Streams Law. As a result, the DEP does not accept SFPM exemptions for any development located within the PWSA service area.

### General Requirements

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Any development within the PWSA service area that meets the DEP's criteria shall be required to complete sewage planning. The requirement for sewage planning depends on a variety of factors, including but not limited to, the Existing Flows, Project Flows, Net Flows, date of lot creation, previous planning module approvals, etc. Please refer to the Planning Workflow Diagram on the PWSA website for additional information.

Please note that the DEP is the governing authority that makes the final determination on whether sewage planning is required. After issuance of the Water and Sewer Use Approval Letter, the PWSA shall issue a Preliminary Determination on the Need for Sewage Planning (Preliminary Determination) to the DEP. The DEP will subsequently issue a Final Determination



on the Need for Sewage Planning (Final Determination), which will confirm or deny the findings in the Preliminary Determination.

### **Submission Requirements**

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Please note that SFPM approval requires approval from PWSA, ALCOSAN, City Planning, City Council and the DEP. As a result, the approval process, from start to finish, can take several months. PWSA aims to respond to each SFPM review within 30 days of receipt. The DEP, upon receipt of the completed SFPM, has up to 90 days to respond.

Please see below for the key steps:

1. Submit the Water and Sewer (W/S) Use Application to the PWSA. The PWSA shall provide the location of the most limited capacity sewer in the W/S Use Approval Letter. After issuance of the W/S Use Approval Letter, the PWSA shall issue the Preliminary Determination. The DEP will subsequently issue a Final Determination, which will confirm or deny the findings in the Preliminary Determination.
2. Submit the Sewage Facilities Planning Module Application Mailer to the DEP to receive the applicable SFPM forms and DEP Code Number. Forward the SFPM documentation, along with the required supporting documentation, to PWSA for review/approval. Refer to the sections that follow for detailed information on submittal requirements. Please be advised PWSA's review will be limited to the collection portion of the SFPM.
3. Submit the SFPM to ALCOSAN after receiving PWSA approval. Please coordinate with the ALCOSAN for additional information on their review process. ALCOSAN's review will be limited to the conveyance and treatment portions of the SFPM. Please refer to the PWSA website for contact information.
4. Submit the SFPM to the City Planning Department for approval after receiving ALCOSAN approval. Please coordinate with the City Planning Department for additional information on their review process. Please refer to the PWSA website for contact information.
5. The City Law Department, which receives the SFPM from the City Planning Department, will request a Resolution to be reviewed/approved by City Council.
6. Submit the completed SFPM to the DEP for final approval.



### **Supplemental Guidance for the SFPM Component 3 Form**

The SFPM Component 3 Form is for sewage collection and treatment facilities. Please be advised that these instructions are intended as a supplement to the DEP's instructions. In the event that there is a conflict between this supplemental guidance and DEP's instructions, the Applicant shall complete the Component 3 Form per DEP instructions. This supplemental guidance is not intended to cover each section on the Component 3 Form, but rather, only the sections that directly apply to PWSA. The supplemental instructions for the SFPM Component 3 Form are as follows:

- Section A No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.
- Section B Please note that the City of Pittsburgh and PWSA are separate and distinct entities. This section shall not be populated with PWSA information.
- Section C No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.
- Section D No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.
- Section E Submit a Water and Sewer Availability Letter Request Form to confirm that PWSA can provide service to the proposed development. Please refer to the Process Overview for additional information.
- Section F No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.
- Section G The PWSA review is limited to Section G(1) – Collection System. Complete Section G(1b), as follows:
- Existing collection or conveyance system: [ROAD NAME – SEWER DIAM. AND MATERIAL]
- Owner: The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority
- Existing Interceptor: [ALLEGHENY/MONONGAHELA/OHIO] River Interceptor
- Owner: The Allegheny County Sanitary Authority
- Section H No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.
- Section I No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.
- Section J For J(1), the Project Flows shall be identical to the Net Flows approved by the PWSA during the Water and Sewer Use Application review process. Please be advised that the Water and Sewer Use shall be approved prior to the SFPM



review. For J(2), the PWSA applicable portions of the table are limited to the "Collection" row. Refer to the sections that follow for detailed information on submittal requirements.

- Section K No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.
- Section L No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.
- Section M No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.
- Section N No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.
- Section O No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.
- Section P No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.
- Section Q No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.
- Section R No additional comments. Please refer to the DEP Instructions.

**Methodology to Determine the Present Flows**

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The flows (i.e. Existing, Project and Net) shall be reviewed and approved by the PWSA during the Water and Sewer Use Application review process. As indicated in Section J - Chapter 94 Consistency Determination of the SFPM, the average and peak existing flows shall represent the most limited capacity sewer (MLCS). Please note that the MLCS is not typically the same sewer used for the tap-in. Therefore, the PWSA shall provide the location of the MLCS as part of the Water and Sewer Use Review process. The Present Flows shall be determined, as follows:

Method No.	Project Flows, gpd	Methodology to Determine the Present Flows
Method #1	Up to and Including 4,000 gpd	Peak Flow Depth Measurements
Method #2	Greater than 4,000 gpd	Flow Monitoring

**Method #1: Peak Flow Measurement**

The Applicant shall take a minimum of five (5) flow depth measurements at the MLCS over a one-hour period between 6-8 AM or 6-8 PM. For example, an Applicant could take measurements at 7:00AM, 7:15AM, 7:30AM, 7:45AM and 8:00AM. The maximum of the five



flow measurements shall be utilized as the flow depth for the Manning equation calculations. All flow depths between zero and one inch shall be rounded to one-inch.

**Method #2: Flow Monitoring**

The Applicant shall contract with a professional flow monitoring company to monitor the Present Flows at the MLCS. The flow monitoring shall take place for a minimum period of 30 days, unless otherwise approved by the PWSA. Data should be checked for quality and analyzed to provide the present maximum monthly dry weather average flows and peak flows in gallons per day. For peak flows in the PWSA's collection systems, indicate whether the flow is peak hourly flow or peak instantaneous flow.

**Calculations for Design Capacity, Present Flows and Projected Flows**

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**General Information**

The flow calculations shall be signed and sealed by a Professional Engineer licensed in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

When available, the Applicant may utilize historical as-built information to determine the existing sewer slope, as indicated in the W/S Use approval. If historical as-built information is not available, the Applicant shall either utilize the minimum slope permitted per the DEP Wastewater Facilities Manual or survey the existing sewer to determine the actual sewer slope.

The Applicant shall utilize the following Manning's Roughness Coefficients (n):

Table 4.1  
 Manning's Roughness Coefficient

Pipe Material	Manning's Roughness Coefficient, n
Brick	0.016
Concrete	0.013
Ductile Iron	0.012
Plastic	0.010
Vitrified Clay	0.015

The Applicant shall utilize the following Peaking Factors:

Table 4.2  
 Peaking Factors

Type of Collection System	Peaking Factor
Combined	3.5



Separate	3.0
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**Flow Calculations**

The Applicant shall calculate the Design and/or Permitted Capacity, Present Flows and Projected Flows in 5 Years, as follows:

Table 4.3  
Flow Calculation Methodology

Flow Type	Calculation Methodology
Peak Design Capacity	Use the Manning Equation for full-flow conditions
Average Design Capacity	= Peak Design Capacity ÷ Peaking Factor
Present Peak Flow	Method #1: Use the Manning Equation for partially filled pipes Method #2: Analyze the flow data
Present Average Flow	Method #1: = Present Peak Flow ÷ Peaking Factor Method #2: Analyze the flow data
Projected Peak Flow in 5 Years	= (Present Peak Flow + Project Flow) × 1.05
Project Average Flow in 5 Years	= Projected Peak Flow in 5 Years ÷ Peaking Factor

**Technical Checklist for SFPM Applications**

The following is a list of items that shall be included with the SFPM application. Failure to provide the required information shall result in the rejection of the submittal package.

- Copy of the DEP Planning Module Components Letter (i.e. DEP's response to the Mailer)
- Copy of the PWSA Water and Sewer Use Approval Letter
- Copy of the Water and Sewer Availability Letter
- Project Narrative including the name of the project, location address, current and proposed use
- Plot Plan showing the existing/proposed structures and existing/proposed utilities
- Flow Calculations signed and sealed by a Professional Engineer
- Sewage Facilities Planning Module – Component 3 – Sewage Collection and Treatment Facilities



## SECTION 5: TAP TERMINATIONS

### Overview

All connections to PWSA public facilities which are abandoned, proposed to be abandoned, or otherwise not in use or service, must be terminated at the connection to the PWSA owned facilities per PWSA details, specifications, and/or standards at the property owner or developer's expense. All structures to be demolished must obtain a tap termination permit from PWSA. This includes but is not limited to restoration of public and private streets, sidewalks, utilities, or paving and landscaping or demolition of structures. For a water service that is active but not in use, the developer has the option of termination or to maintain a meter. If no tap termination permit is issued from PWSA, the property owner will continue to receive a monthly bill.

All tap terminations require a permit. If no new taps are proposed, a tap permit application and drawings must be submitted. Any tap terminations proposed as part of the development of a property shall be included and approved on the tap-in plans as described in the Tap-in Procedures section.

### Submission Requirements

The applicable standard details must be shown on the applicant's drawings. All current standard details can be found on our website. The applicant should note on the drawing any existing account numbers and/or meter numbers associated with the tap to be terminated. Drawings are to be submitted via e-Builder. Instructions to obtain an e-Builder project folder are outlined in the Process Overview of this manual.

### Termination Procedure

PWSA must field verify the termination of the existing connections. The applicant shall notify PWSA by contacting the Field Supervisor provided with their permit at least three working days in advance of the proposed termination date. A PWSA inspector must be on site during the termination procedure and witness said terminations and pipe zone backfilling. Removal of existing private portions of abandoned or unused sewer laterals and/or abandoned or unused private water service lines is the responsibility of the property owner. Absent the written agreement of the PWSA to the contrary, should the PWSA be required to remove a property owner's abandoned sewer laterals and/or abandoned or unused water service lines, the total PWSA cost of that removal shall invoice and/or lien said property. In the case of water service lines for fire or domestic use, once the service is terminated, the applicant shall return the meter and remote reading device to PWSA and provide PWSA with said meter and account numbers and the service addresses. Failure to return meter and account number/service address will have developer subject to continued billing on accounts.



**Note:** Please be advised there could be ferrule charges billed for unremoved taps.

**Trenchless Technology**

If the applicant proposes to terminate a sanitary or storm sewer connection using trenchless technology, then the applicant must submit shop drawings and calculations for method to be used and conduct NASSCO certified closed-circuit televised video (CCTV) inspections of the public sewer before and after the termination(s). Copies of the videos and related report information must be submitted to the PWSA. All CCTV inspection must be compatible with PWSA electronic media and adhere to current PWSA standards.



## SECTION 6: TAP-IN PROCEDURES

### Overview

All developments and/or redevelopments proposing new taps, increasing flow to existing taps, or increasing storm flow to a new or existing storm system must submit tap-in plans stamped by a Pennsylvania Certified Engineer for review by PWSA engineers. This section outlines general plan requirements and specific tapping procedures. A development may include all taps described in this section while others may only include one.

The following prerequisite conditions must be satisfied prior to the review of tap-in drawings:

- The applicant shall have submitted a PWSA Water and Sewer Availability Letter Request.
- The Water and Sewer Use Application has been approved by PWSA. A fire service only tap is does not need a Water and Sewer Use application approval.
- If applicable, DEP Sewage Facilities Planning Module must be under review by PWSA.
- \$250 review fee has been submitted.

PWSA grants final approval of the tap-in drawing through an electronic review process in e-Builder. After the final review, PWSA will supply the applicant with a permit fee invoice (See tapping fees section). A digital copy of the approved drawings will be provided to the applicant when the permit is issued. A permit is not considered issued until all fees are paid.

### General Requirements

General tap-in guidelines are as follows:

- Form-DEV must be completed and submitted with the tap-in plans.
- Drawing size shall be 24 inches x 36 inches in landscape.
- Plan views shall be drawn to 1"=20' or 1"=30'.
- Plan view shall be set to City monumentation and City datum unless otherwise directed.



- Drawing shall be readable and drawn to scale with a north arrow pointing to the top or the right of said sheet.
- Drawing shall include a plan view of the entire site. All existing topographic information shall be shown either 50 percent screened or half-toned.
- Existing building footprint shall be displayed and shall show the address, parcel ID, type of building, number of floors, the square footage of each floor and the total square footage of the building. If an address or parcel ID has not yet been established, use proposed address.
- Existing meter and account numbers must be shown.
- CCTV is required for all sewer lines pre and post construction when new taps, concrete work, or foundation work are proposed.
- CCTV shall be in MPEG format and include a NASSCO/PACP export of CCTV database, PDF map showing the location of manhole IDs, PDF of all CCTV inspection logs.
- Existing manholes and wyes must be shown by survey stationing matching CCTV.
- All existing sewer, storm and water lines near project location shall be displayed. Each line shall be marked private or public.
- All existing water mains, sanitary or storm sewers that will be tapped shall be displayed. The size and material type shall be shown.
- Proposed location and size of the service line shall be shown and stationed. Stationing shall be established from a fixed location such as centerline, right-of-way line, or property line. Valves and manholes are not considered a fixed location unless otherwise directed by PWSA. Proposed sewer, storm and water lateral information is to be shown in bold line weight and text.
- The appropriate scalable plan view, profiles, and details shall be displayed. Examples of the PWSA standard details can be found on our website.
- All applicable standard tapping and termination details shall be displayed. Current details are available on our website.
- All existing private water and sewer lines connected to the existing building or servicing the site including abandoned facilities. Any existing service line that will not be reused by the proposed project must be terminated by the owner. The service line must be terminated at the main as per PWSA Specifications and in a manner acceptable to the PWSA.



- All existing easements must be displayed on the plans. Documentation of easements must be provided.
- The summary table titled "Water and Sewer Flow Data" must be completed by the applicant and shown on each drawing.
- Each tap-in drawing must also include an appropriate title block in the lower right-hand corner of the drawing.
- Current PWSA approval block must be shown on each drawing. This block is to be completed by PWSA.
- A Hydrant Flow Test Results table is required for all water and fire protection service tap-in drawings. See Hydrant Flow Test procedures for more information.
- All applicable tapping, termination, and trenching details shall be shown. Any modifications to PWSA details must be explicitly called out on the plans.
- Connection to PWSA sewer can be made through an existing wye or through a new approved connection into the PWSA sewer main. If private connection is proposed to be made through an existing wye, then the location of the existing wye must be shown and stationed to the nearest PWSA manhole on the sewer tap-in drawing(s). Certain existing wye stationing can be obtained from PWSA records/video location of taps. If a new connection is proposed using a new wye, then a detail of the connection must be shown and also stationed as stated above on the sewer tap drawing. New connections must follow current PWSA specifications and standards.
- Construction of private sanitary or storm sewer laterals to tap PWSA manholes and catch basins or storm inlets is not permitted.

### **Sanitary and Storm Sewer Tap-in Specific Requirements**

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- If an existing sanitary sewer line is present, then the applicant must propose connecting the sanitary flows from the proposed development to the existing sanitary sewer unless otherwise directed by PWSA.
- If only an existing combined sewer is present, then the applicant must propose connecting both the sanitary and storm flows from the proposed development to the combined sewer with two separate laterals connecting into one wye unless otherwise directed.



- If an existing storm sewer is present, the applicant must connect the flows from the proposed development to the appropriate sewers unless otherwise directed. This includes areas where existing combination sewers are intended to become designated storm in the future as directed by the PWSA.
- Any combination, sanitary sewer, storm sewer or water taps that are being terminated by the customer must be shown on the tap-in drawings (located and/or stationed as directed). Be advised that new tap(s) will not be provided until all site related abandoned existing services are terminated and witnessed by a PWSA representative. All costs associated with the termination of existing private service lines are the responsibility of the property owner.
- It is encouraged to use best management practices (BMPs) to achieve an approved method of surface/stormwater collection, conveyance, detention, and/or retention for stormwater which may minimize or even eliminate the use of PWSA sewer conveyance conduits. Stormwater facilities on private property are usually regulated by other agencies including, but not limited to City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD), and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The Stormwater Management Officer, located at the Department of City Planning for the City of Pittsburgh, can provide more information on private property surface/stormwater detention and retention requirements. Contact information for the City Stormwater Management Officer can be found on our website. The applicant must also comply with all current county/state stormwater regulations.

### **Water Quality Requirements**

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The following regulations for private stormwater connections to PWSA sewers are designed to comply with the current Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's suggested guidelines for stormwater quality as expressed in the current edition of the Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual (BMP Manual) . Chapter 3, Section 3.5 of this manual states "Achieve an 85 percent reduction in post-development particulate associated pollutant load (as represented by Total Suspended Solids [TSS]), an 85 percent reduction in post-development total phosphorus loads, and a 50 percent reduction in post-development solute loads (as represented by NO3-N), all based on post-development land use." Any structural or nonstructural methods of achieving the stormwater quality guidelines above are acceptable, provided that appropriate documentation and worksheets from the BMP Manual are submitted to PWSA and found to verify the claimed performance after review. All surface drainage



areas except for unoccupied elevated roof space must be captured and treated. All structural and nonstructural water quality designs must meet the following requirements:

- Design must capture grit/silt, floatable debris and/or other pollutants as noted in these specifications or as directed.
- The device must be detailed on the plans and all certified pertinent sizing information, options, weirs, orifices, settings, flow capacity, etc. must be noted. PWSA reserves the right to request design certification from an engineer registered in Pennsylvania.
- Provide documentation of required approval(s) by other private and/or government agencies.
- The property(s) owner(s) must provide a signed statement outlining the maintenance requirements as stated by the manufacturer and/or designer and agreeing to accepting responsibility for this required private maintenance. PWSA reserves the right to request a recorded copy of this document.

Due to the congested nature of development within the City of Pittsburgh, many sites will be required to use water quality filters and/or hydrodynamic devices as standalone units. If the surface drainage area excluding unoccupied roof space is less than 5000 ft<sup>2</sup>, PWSA may grant approval to use inlet filter bags designed for permanent installation and/or maintenance. However, they must meet the same stormwater quality requirements. Water quality filters and/or hydrodynamic devices and/or inlet filter bags must meet the following minimum requirements:

- 85% total suspended solids (TSS) removal with a mean particle size distribution of 50 microns or smaller. It is assumed that removal of the smaller particles will result in the desired nitrogen and phosphorus removal.
- Design must not release previously captured pollutants during high flows or when in need of maintenance.
- Design must capture above noted grit/silt, floatable debris and/or other pollutants as directed.
- The device must be detailed on the plans and all certified pertinent sizing information, options, weirs, orifices, settings, flow capacity, etc. must be noted.
- The property owner(s) must provide a signed and/or legally recorded statement/agreement outlining the maintenance requirements as stated by an approved manufacturer and agrees to accepting responsibility for this required private maintenance.



- The stormwater quality device must be located where it is accessible for PWSA inspection and/or for maintenance by the owner.
- PWSA may request test results from an independent source.

Other private BMPs that work well in an urban environment are predominantly based on subsurface storage detention and/or retention, which are usually located beneath parking lots, landscaping, or other surface features. The surface feature may or may not be part of the BMP.

In its simplest form, subsurface storage consists of an excavated area filled with crushed stone which stormwater is directed to. The reservoiring water fills the void space between the individual stones. Perforated pipes and/or proprietary structures are often added to increase the storage capacity. The excavation is lined with geotextile to deter fine soils from entering the storage space.

Stormwater retention refers to runoff which is kept onsite and usually allowed to infiltrate into the existing earth. This is preferred over stormwater detention, but site conditions may limit the ability to infiltrate stormwater. Percolation testing should be done to verify the site conditions during design and the area protected from compaction damage during construction activities if stormwater retention is proposed.

Stormwater detention refers to the storage and slow release of stormwater. This minimizes the peak flow rate in the storm sewer and/or receiving body of water. Most BMPs are designed to retain a portion of the stormwater and detain the remainder.

The Pennsylvania DEP BMP Manual has many more specific BMPs based on the general concepts above, such as Pervious Pavement with Infiltration Bed, Infiltration Basin, Infiltration Trench, and Rain Garden. The BMP Manual also includes BMPs based on other concepts which are well adapted to an urban environment, such as Vegetated Roofs and Runoff Capture & Reuse. Many companies have developed proprietary versions of BMPs which may also be used, provided they are compliant with current local, state, and PWSA regulations. As long as sound design principals and methodologies are used, BMPs may be mixed, matched, modified, and linked together. Also refer to current municipal and Allegheny County guidance and regulations for additional information.

### **Water Tap-in Specific Requirements**

- Plan view shall show all existing or proposed valves, thrust blocks, fire service, water service, meter and backflow location.
- Concrete blocking required for 4-inch taps and larger.



- The tap-in drawing shall show all existing water service lines connected to the existing building or servicing the site. Existing residential private service lines must be a minimum of 1-inch copper with a flow of 5 gallons per minute (GPM) to be reused. New commercial, industrial, or institutional developments may utilize existing service lines at the expense and maintenance of the owner if minimum flow requirements are met. All lines to be reused must have an Allegheny County Health Department approval in writing with application.
- It is the responsibility of the design consultants, engineers, and/or architects hired by the developer to determine the adequacy of the existing water systems to fulfill proposed needs at their time and expense. The presence of an existing PWSA water main or an existing water service line in no way implies that PWSA has adequate capacity or pressure for the proposed development.

#### **Curb Stop Valves**

Approved curb stop valves shall be provided on all new domestic water service lines 12 inches towards the property from the face of curb or edge of pavement and oriented in a straight line perpendicular to the public street right of way unless otherwise directed. For mains located in the sidewalk, curb stop valves shall be located approximately 12" from property line to the street. New taps and domestic service lines shall also be located so as not to place the curb valve within the defined limits of a driveway unless otherwise directed. All private service line materials must also comply with all required ACHD Plumbing Division directions and approvals.

#### **Water Meters**

A water meter is required for each customer service line. PWSA will supply, set and connect all water meters regardless of size to new and/or existing piping. PWSA's current policy is one meter per water service line/connection tap-in to the PWSA public water main. Each meter must be associated with a specific billing address and legally responsible individual or organization. Any private sub metering and/or division of the PWSA bill are solely the responsibility of the individual or organization mentioned above.

The water tap-in drawing shall include a schematic detail for each proposed meter and remote reading device servicing the development. This detail must show size, type, and model number of PWSA approved meter and remote reading device for each service line. The applicant must provide peak domestic water demand in gallons per minute (gpm) on the drawing. The peak domestic water demand will determine the size of the new water meter.



### Meter Pits/Vaults

The PWSA recommends meter pits/vaults for all installations. PWSA requires meter pits for all residential units as directed. If the distance from the PWSA water main to the point of entry of the water service line at the building is greater than 50 feet, then the applicant is required to install a meter pit or vault. The meter pit or vault must be located at the property line no farther than 36 inches from the edge of the public right-of-way or property line that contains the PWSA water main. If the distance from the water main to the point of entry at the building is less than 50 feet, then the PWSA may permit the meter to be installed inside the building unless the building is constructed on a slab on grade. All properties constructed as slab on grade must install a meter pit.

Any meter installed inside a building must be located no more than 36 inches from the point of entry at the inside face of the exterior wall of the water service line inside the building. Where a meter is installed in a building, the remote reading device shall be installed on the outside wall of the structure or at any other location that in the PWSA's judgment is accessible under most conditions. It shall be securely attached to the building at a level between 3-1/2 and 4-1/2 feet above finished grade, outside of any fenced-in areas if possible, and clear of obstructions. It shall be located on the front of the building or on a side near the front. If two buildings are separated by a driveway, it shall be located on the sides of the buildings facing each other to facilitate reading. Exceptions to these requirements will be made only if approved by the PWSA in writing.

Service lines four inches and larger will require a vault. Vaults must meet the following requirements:

- All vaults must have two hinged doors capable of being locked open. Both doors must be large enough for human entry. One of the doors must be centered over the meter and large enough for the easy installation, removal, and maintenance of the meter. It is suggested that the second door be placed over the backflow prevention device.
- An aluminum ladder is required at each door of the vault for access.
- The property owner will own and is responsible for the vault and its maintenance.
- The vault must have a method of drainage. A drain line day lighting to open air is preferred, but a sump for pumping out the vault is the minimum requirement where a drain line is not possible (the drain line cannot be connected to the public sewer system).



- Vaults or pits located in roads, driveways, or other areas subject to traffic must be live load rated (H20). Be advised PWSA and/or ACHD do not recommend vaults/pits in street cart ways and/or driveways.
- Projects where domestic and fire lines are connected to the public main via a single tap as shown in PWSA Detail WSC-1 may use a single vault for both services. In this application, one door is required to be centered over the domestic meter and another is required to be centered over the double detector check backflow prevention device and by-pass meter used on the fire service.
- PWSA requires a cut sheet/shop drawing submittal(s) for all vaults prior to installation to ensure the above criteria is met.

### **Backflow Prevention**

A backflow prevention device is to be installed on every service line. When applying for a new or replacement water service tap, it is required that all active existing service lines be equipped with an approved backflow prevention device. In no case will a plan be approved until all existing and new service lines are appropriately protected against backflow. The following requirements apply to all backflow prevention devices.

- Backflow prevention devices must be installed immediately after the water meter and remote reading device and before any branch lines leading off of the water service line.
- Backflow prevention devices must be installed so as to be readily accessible and with adequate space for inspection, testing, maintenance, and disassembly.
- Backflow prevention devices must be mounted in a horizontal position except for two models which permit horizontal or vertical mounting.
- Backflow prevention devices such as a reduced pressure zone (RPZ) type with a drain must be protected from freezing by installation in a heated building. Pit or vault installation is also prohibited. Such pit or vault applications must have a dual check type backflow prevention device directly after the meter within the pit or vault in addition to the RPZ type within the building.
- PWSA requires reduced pressure zone (RPZ) type backflow prevention on all non-residential developments.



- Backflow prevention devices with drains must be installed so that the relief port is always readily visible and vented to drain.
- Preferably, the backflow prevention device should be located a minimum of 18 inches from the nearest wall and the center line of the pipe and should be located between 24 inches and 48 inches off the deck for horizontal installation.
- The property owner owns and is responsible for the proper maintenance and/or protection of all backflow prevention devices. Each device is to be tested annually and results submitted to PWSA.
- Each installation has specific design problems that must be considered. However, the above guidelines and manufacturers' recommendations will be emphasized when plans are submitted for approval.

### **Fire Protection Service Tap-In Specific Requirements**

Tap-in drawings for fire protection service are required by PWSA for all proposed developments and/or redevelopments that voluntarily install or are required to install a fire suppression system by the City of Pittsburgh Department of Permits, Licenses, and Inspections (PLI). This includes single-family homes with proposed fire service. It is the responsibility of the developer to determine if fire service is required. PWSA does not determine if fire service is required and will only review if fire service taps are included on the tap-in plans.

It is the responsibility of the design consultants, engineers, and/or architects hired by the developer to determine the adequacy of the existing water systems to fulfill proposed needs at their time and expense. The presence of an existing PWSA water main or an existing water service line in no way implies that PWSA has adequate capacity or pressure for the proposed development.

If adequate water pressure exists, fire protection systems are directed to have a separate tap from the PWSA water main. Domestic water service line(s) can be tapped onto said fire line but separated in the public right-of-way with shut-off valve, if deemed acceptable by PWSA. No irrigation or domestic lines may be tapped from a dedicated fireline.

All new shut off valves required for redundant fire service lines as determined by the City of Pittsburgh Department of Permits, Licenses, and Inspections shall be installed at the expense of the developer according to the procedures outlined in Private



Construction of Public Facilities. It is PWSA's preference that redundant fire lines are tapped to two different water mains where available.

If applicant is applying for only a fire line tap, the Water & Sewer Flow Data Table is not required.

The applicant must include the following information on the Peak Operating Water Demands Table on each tap-in drawing:

- Fire System Peak Demand (in gpm)
- Domestic System Peak Demand (in gpm)

If a fire service line feeds a hydrant on private property, the line will require a water meter and remote reading device in a meter pit/vault. A 5/8-inch x 3/4-inch meter and remote reading device must be purchased from the PWSA where fireline is equipped with typical backflow assembly. PWSA will install to new and/or existing piping, and own and maintain all water meters and remote reading devices.

A backflow prevention device is to be installed on every service line. When applying for a new or replacement fire service protection service tap, it is required that all active existing service lines be equipped with an approved backflow prevention device. In no case will a plan be approved until all existing and new service lines are appropriately protected against backflow. For more information on backflow prevention requirements, review Backflow Prevention.

### **Hydrant Flow Test**

Before any water tap-in drawings for developments including fire service or domestic service greater than one-inch can be submitted, the applicant must first apply for a hydrant permit to conduct the hydrant flow test.

The applicant should indicate the street name of the tap location on the application. PWSA will review and select two hydrants for the hydrant flow test. PWSA reserves the right to modify the hydrant selections before the hydrant flow test is completed.

If an accurate flow cannot be measured on a PWSA water main, no fireline taps will be permitted into that main unless no other options are available. The developer may install a fire hydrant as directed by PWSA at the expense of the developer according to the procedures outlined in Private Construction of Public Facilities.

- The Operations Division of PWSA will operate all valves and hydrants during the hydrant flow tests. Information on how to schedule the hydrant flow test will be given with the permit.



- The applicant must conduct the hydrant flow tests using his own equipment and personnel.
  - Compliance with NFPA 291 is required as determined by the City of Pittsburgh.
  - The pressure drop during the hydrant flow test must be 20 percent or greater as required by NFPA 291.

Ideal conditions for hydrant flow tests are when outside air temperatures are above 40°F. PWSA will typically not permit hydrant flow tests when the outside air temperature is below 40°F and falling. PWSA can authorize a hydrant flow test to be conducted only if additional safety measures are taken and permitted by the city (i.e. salt truck, etc.). Hydrant flow tests are also dependent upon the availability of the PWSA crew to operate the hydrants. Typically, results from a hydrant flow test are valid for a period of one year from the date of the test. In certain areas with heavy development, PWSA may determine that the test results are valid for only six months from the date of the test.

The applicant must complete the Hydrant Flow Test Results table with the data from the hydrant flow test and add to water tap-in drawings.

## **Tap Installation Procedures**

### **Waterline Taps**

No water tap will be performed unless all water meters, remote reading devices, and backflow devices have been previously installed and subsequently inspected by PWSA. PWSA must perform the waterline tap, meter and remote reading device installation, and any valve shutdowns. Forty-eight hours advance notification from the owner is required before the tap can be performed.

Listed below are the required steps for water tap-in:

- The customer is to follow all steps outlined in previous sections of this manual to obtain a development permit.
- After permit approval and the fees paid, a permit will be issued at the permit counter.
- The customer / developer may begin site prep for service line, meter, and remote device installation.
- Customer / developer shall obtain street opening permit if necessary and begin excavation to open street and expose water main.



- Customer / developer shall use the contact information provided at permit issuance to schedule meter and tap installation.
- PWSA will inspect service line / meter installation.
- PWSA will inspect excavation for tap and any tap terminations, if necessary.
- Customer / developer shall make connection from the main to the meter set.

Construction personnel employed by the applicant are responsible for all permitting, excavation, backfill, trench restoration, and domestic water service line installations from the building to the point of the tap-in at the PWSA water main. The applicant's construction personnel must have proper trench shoring and equipment on site to conduct all required work and complete the job.

The responsibility of the work is as follows:

- For customer water service lines 1 inch and 1½ inches in size, only the PWSA drills and/or connects the ferrule (corporation cock) to the PWSA water main. For new connections, the customer is responsible for installing the service line from the ferrule to the building (including all associated trenching and surface restoration). For private water service lines 1 inch in diameter or less serving a single-family residential development, PWSA assumes the maintenance responsibility made for the curb stop, the curb box, and the portion of the water service line running from the curb stop to the water main after initial connection and installation. The property owner owns and is responsible for the maintenance of that portion of the water service line running from the premises being served with PWSA water to the curb stop, including the connection to the curb stop but not the curb stop itself. If the owner of a single family residential development installs or wishes to have installed a water service line greater than 1 inch in diameter, then ownership and maintenance responsibility for the entire water service line and related appurtenances, from the premises being served with PWSA water up to and including the connection of the water service line to the PWSA water main, including the curb stop and curb box, and the corporation stop or mechanical joint tee, lies with the property owner.
- If a 2- or 3-inch service line is required, a 4-inch cut in or mechanical tapping tee/sleeve will be required. After the tapping tee/sleeve, the service line size can be reduced.
- For domestic water service lines 2 inches and larger, where the customer desires to install a tapping sleeve, the customer is responsible for installing the tapping sleeve on the PWSA water main. Then, PWSA shall drill the PWSA water main to install the connection. The customer is also responsible for



installing the private PWSA approved gate valve, curb stop with curb box, service line and related appurtenances from the tapping sleeve to the building.

- When the customer is required to install a cut-in tee, a waterline shut permit is required as outlined below. The customer is responsible for installing the cut-in tee and the private gate valve, curb stop with curb box, and service line from the tee to the building.
- One-inch connections shall have a minimum distance of 5 feet between taps when the taps are made on the same side of the water main. One-inch connections made on opposite sides of the water main require a minimum distance of 30 inches. Connections larger than one inch require a minimum distance of 5 feet between taps unless otherwise directed.

#### **Waterline Shut Permit**

- When a water main shut down is required for a tap-in, the applicant's construction personnel must apply for a Waterline Shutoff Permit.
- The contractor shall submit the waterline shutoff application at least fifteen (15) days before the shutoff is required.
- The contractor must also submit a \$5000 deposit, payable by cashier's check with the completed application. The deposit payment must be separate from any other tap-in fee payments. If the contractor completes the work in the estimated timeframe, the Authority will refund \$4500 to the contractor after the work is completed. A waterline shutoff permit form can be found on our website.
- If work is to occur at night, the fee is double.

#### **Sewerline Taps**

No sewer taps are to occur prior to PWSA approval.

Listed below are the required steps for sewer tap-in:

- The customer is to follow all steps outlined in previous sections of this manual to obtain a development permit.
- After permit approval and the fees paid, a permit will be issued at the permit counter.
- The customer / developer may begin site prep for service line.
- Customer / developer shall obtain street opening permit if necessary and begin excavation to open street and expose water main.
- Customer / developer shall use the contact information provided at permit issuance to schedule meter and tap installation.



- PWSA will inspect service line tap installation.
- PWSA will inspect excavation for tap and any tap terminations, if necessary.

Construction personnel employed by the applicant are responsible for all permitting, excavation, backfill, trench restoration, and sewer lateral installations from the building to the point of the tap-in at the PWSA sewer main. The applicant's construction personnel must have proper trench shoring and equipment on site to conduct all required work and complete the job.

PWSA does not accept maintenance responsibility for any private sewer laterals including the connection to the main.



## SECTION 7: TAP FEES

PWSA will calculate the appropriate fees based upon the related project information submitted by the applicant in the Water and Sewer Use Application and tap-in plans. All fees are based on the amount of water demand and the sewer flows created by each development plus the cost of the taps, meters, and valve operations. The fees will be charged to new applicants of the PWSA systems to recover the cost of constructing the public water and sewer systems and related facilities. The fees support the construction and maintenance of infrastructure such as:

- Trunk and collector sewers
- Sewage pumping stations
- Water pumping stations
- Water filtration
- Water treatment
- Large diameter transmission mains
- Small diameter water mains
- Storage reservoirs
- Storage tanks

Tap fee calculations are based on Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) and Gallons Per Day (GPD). One EDU is equal to 300 GPD and is representative of the peak flow of one single-family unit. To determine the EDUs for projects that are not single-family homes, the current calculation is  $\text{Net Flow GPD} / 300 \text{ GPD}$ .

As an example, a development creating 1500 GPD of water demand and 1500 of sewage flow will use  $1500 \text{ GPD} / 300$  which equals 5 water EDUs and 5 sewer EDUs.

It should be noted that the DEP currently defines one EDU as 400 GPD. The number of EDUs for a development will differ for DEP submittals and PWSA fees.

### Fee Schedule

All fees are established in the PWSA Water and Wastewater Tariffs and approved by the PUC. Fees are categorized by tapping, capacity, connection, and customer facilities (i.e. taps and meters) Collectively, the fees are referred to as tap fees.



Table 7.1 Fee Schedule	
Fee Type	Fee
Sewer	
Tapping	\$1277
Capacity	\$1701
Connection	\$0*
Total Sewer Fee	\$2,978/EDU
Water	
Capacity	\$1382
Distribution	\$842
Connection	See Tap Fee Schedule**
Customer Facilities	See Meter Fee Schedule***
Total Water Fee	\$2,224/EDU + cost of connection + cost of customer facilities

\* PWSA's current policy for sewer connections states that the customer is responsible for excavating and connecting the private sewer lateral at the PWSA main line as per current PWSA standards and specifications and installing the private service lateral from the PWSA main to the building to be served. Based on this policy, PWSA does not currently charge a sewer connection fee.

\*\*The Water Connection Fee includes the cost of taps and valve operations. PWSA shall install all taps and operate all valves on PWSA water mains. PWSA will install the corporation stop and coupling for water service lines 1.5 inch or less in diameter. The customer is responsible for excavation and installation of the water service line from the building to be serviced to the point of connection at the PWSA main. The Connection fee charged by PWSA varies based upon the size of the service line and the type of tap-in procedures required by the PWSA and/or ACHD regulations. See current fee schedule for costs.



\*\*\*The Customer Facilities Fee includes the cost water meters and remote reading devices. All meters and remote reading devices must be purchased from the PWSA. See current fee schedule for costs.

There are currently no tapping fees associated with storm connections.

PWSA will post a fee schedule on our website yearly.

### **Fee Credits**

The tapping fees apply to all new developments and any renovations creating an increased demand for existing structures. PWSA will credit tapping fees to an existing structure or development at our discretion.

The following conditions must be met to receive fee credits:

- The existing structure has not been removed and has maintained an active connection to PWSA infrastructure as determined by the PWSA. Also, under certain conditions where the existing structure has been removed because of natural disaster such as fire, earth/foundation movement, etc. and is being replaced by the original owner with a building of the same size and footprint.
- Both existing and proposed usages and peak flows can be satisfactorily documented and calculated by the applicant. The PWSA reserves the right to determine whether said information is acceptable.
- No developments proposing subdivisions, consolidations, or any other significant modifications (as determined by the PWSA) to the legal boundaries of said existing parcel.

No credit will be granted to existing vacant lots unless determined by PWSA as meeting the criteria of a natural disaster.

If credit is granted for existing usage, the peak daily flow calculated for the existing structures is subtracted from the calculated peak daily flow for the proposed structure. The applicant will be required to pay for any additional new tapping fees.

No new accounts will be established prior to all fees being paid.



**SECTION 8: PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC FACILITIES****Overview**

This section is relevant to developments which require physical modifications to PWSA's existing water and sewer facilities. Please see below for a list of common examples:

- The Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire determined that there is not an existing fire hydrant within sufficient distance of a proposed development. Therefore, the developer is required to construct a new fire hydrant at a nearby intersection.
- The Department of Permits, Licenses, and Inspections of the City of Pittsburgh has determined that an upcoming development requires a dual/secondary/backup fire service. The PWSA only has a single distribution main within the project area. Therefore, the developer is required to construct a gate valve on the PWSA water main to separate the two fire connections.
- A development consists of a proposed public roadway to a residential subdivision. The developer is proposing new water and sewer facilities within the public roadway and intends to transfer ownership of the constructed facilities to PWSA.
- The PWSA is requiring a developer to terminate ten (10) unused, but open, sewer connections located on a sewer segment. The sewer is located beneath a busy street, and open-cut excavations would be difficult. The developer is proposing to terminate the connections via cured-in place pipe (CIPP).
- The PWSA has an existing sewer main that traverses the developer's property. The proposed structure is in direct conflict with the sewer main. The PWSA requires the developer to relocate the sewer main within the cartway of an adjacent street.

**General Requirements**

The first step for developments which contain Private Construction of Public Facilities (PCoPF) work is to submit a pre-development meeting request, as described in [Section 1: Process Overview](#). The pre-development meeting is intended to address early-stage questions, such as:

- Is the PCoPF work required? Can the development be adequately serviced via existing infrastructure?



- What is PWSA's procedure for PCoPF Projects?
- What are the developer's next steps?
- Are there any immediate concerns with the proposed work?
- Are there better alternatives?

PWSA facilities in conflict with a proposed development shall be relocated at the developer's expense. If an existing structure conflicts with an existing PWSA facility, and the conflict cannot be eliminated, the PWSA shall require a Structures Over Facilities (SOF) Agreement. The SOF Agreement will include additional provisions, such as a recorded easement, and may require structural enhancements to the PWSA facilities in conflict. PWSA is to review and approve all plans and specifications prior to construction as described in this section.

#### **Conditions of Acceptance**

The PWSA will only accept the dedication of conventional water and sewer facilities, including but not limited to water main, fire hydrants, gate valves, manholes, sewer main, drainage structures, etc.

The PWSA shall not accept any facilities located within private property or private right-of-way. In such circumstances, the constructed facilities would remain privately owned. For private water mains, the PWSA would require a master meter within 50-feet of the connection with the PWSA water main. If an existing private street is adopted by the City as a public street, and said street contains privately owned water or sewer facilities, the PWSA is under no obligation to accept said facilities.

PWSA will not accept dedication of facilities that have not followed the processes contained herein. Lack of inspection by the PWSA, as-built drawings, or other requested documentation to verify the proper construction of the proposed water and/or sewer facilities may result in PWSA using funds from the performance bond to complete construction to our standards. PWSA reserves the right to require the unearthing of any completed infrastructure to ensure proper inspections take place prior to acceptance.

In any instances that PWSA cannot verify the new or relocated facilities have been constructed according to minimum standards, the facilities will remain private, and the developer will be required to obtain additional permits from the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) or the City of Pittsburgh. The developer is also required to properly record with the City and the County Recorder of Deeds the ownership/maintenance agreement between all parties that share use of the private utilities. The PWSA will not



permit the connection of the proposed facilities to existing PWSA public facilities if the maintenance agreement is not recorded. Copies of the ACHD variance letter, recorded easement(s), and recorded maintenance agreement must be submitted to the PWSA.

Private shared infrastructure such as detention basins serving multiple properties will require recorded Maintenance Agreements and may also require easements, variances, and other documentation as described in greater detail below.

Past work not properly permitted and/or accepted via recorded agreement by the PWSA is the responsibility of the current property owner(s). This includes a wide range of structures ranging from unauthorized private sewer taps to storm culverts. Any past maintenance and/or repairs done to said private facilities by the PWSA for the sake of public health and safety does not imply ownership by the PWSA.

Common reasons why facilities may not be accepted by PWSA are as follows:

- The facilities only serve a single customer. In such a situation, the facilities would be considered private sewer lateral(s) or private water service line(s). Documentation must be provided to PWSA that the correct permits and variances are in place for these private structures/facilities. This may include encroachment permits for facilities in the right-of-way, variances from the City of Pittsburgh/ACHD, recorded easements/agreements for other properties crossed, and other requirements depending on the specific site.
- Newly constructed roads not accepted by the City of Pittsburgh.
- Facilities that cross private property when it is not required by site conditions as interpreted by PWSA.
- Facilities that do not have all the required recorded legal agreements, easements and/or permits. It is the developer's responsibility to research and acquire at their expense all permits and/or recorded easements prior to dedication of public water and sewer facilities to PWSA.
- Facilities built do not match materials, methods, or general locations on approved plan. Any departures from approved plans must be approved in writing by PWSA.

### **Development Agreement**

The Development Agreement is a legally binding document that defines the process for constructed facilities to be accepted by the PWSA. Upon request, the PWSA will provide



a draft Development Agreement for the developer to review and comment. Please refer to the PWSA website for a Sample Development Agreement. The developer is encouraged to review the Development Agreement with legal counsel. All proposed revisions shall be made in track-change mode for PWSA's review and approval. Under no circumstances is the developer to change any items in the recital clauses, unless otherwise directed.

Once finalized, the Development Agreement may be subject to approval at the next available PWSA Board of Directors meeting. Please note that, to be placed on the agenda, the Development Agreement needs to be finalized approximately one month prior to the regularly scheduled Board meeting.

The Development Agreement, executed by the developer and the PWSA, shall be required prior to any subsequent approvals (e.g. construction drawings, performance bond, construction cost estimate, etc.). However, the absence of an executed Development Agreement does not preclude a developer from submitting documentation for review. The Checklist of Required Approvals summarizes the typical approvals contained within the Development Agreement, as further described below.

If the proposed scope of work requires an external inspection from an on-call consultant, the procurement process typically takes approximately six (6) weeks. The following approvals shall be required by the PWSA before a determination can be made on whom will perform the inspection services:

#### **Construction Drawings**

The construction drawings must comply with the design standards contained within the latest version of the Checklist of Requirements for Construction Drawings. In addition, please see below for additional information:

- The PWSA aims to respond to each submission within 30 days of receipt. However, the actual length of time required to conduct the review is largely influenced by the quality of the submission and complexity of the project.
- The PWSA sewer collection system largely consists of combined sewers. A combined sewer conveys both stormwater (e.g. catch basins, roof leaders, storm water detention systems) and sanitary flows (e.g. toilets, showers, sinks). However, please be advised that the extension of combined sewers shall be prohibited. Sewer extensions shall require a dedicated storm sewer and sanitary sewer.
- Newly constructed facilities shall be adequately sized and positioned to account for future development.



- Typically, the PWSA Operations Department will install the proposed connections once a constructed water main is charged. However, please note that the developer's contractor is permitted to install connections per the following conditions:
  - Connections shall be contained within an approved PWSA Development Permit. Please refer to Section 6 – Tap-in Procedures for additional information.
  - Connections must be performed when the waterline is uncharged.
  - Each connection shall be connected to a PWSA meter via a service line. The developer shall remain responsible to install any corresponding meter crocks or vaults in accordance with the approved Development Permit.
  - Unmetered connections shall be prohibited. Connections for vacant properties shall require a meter, which will be set up for a developer-owned customer account.
  - The PWSA shall be responsible to set meters and remote reading devices. Taps for vacant properties must be metered and billed in the name of the contractor/developer/owner.

#### **Construction Cost Estimate**

The construction cost estimate (CCE) shall be limited to the improvements contained within the Development Agreement. The PWSA will prepare the draft CCE and share with the developer for review and comment. The CCE is calculated with unit prices derived from the average winning bidder for PWSA's publicly bid projects. The value of the CCE may differ from the value of the contract between the developer and the developer's contractor. For representative unit prices, please refer to the Estimate Spreadsheets. The CCE will be used to determine the value of the required securities (e.g. bonds, irrevocable, cash, etc.) and escrow check (e.g. CM/CI services).

#### **Escrow Check**

The developer shall fund an escrow account to compensate the PWSA for costs associated with the Development Agreement, including PWSA reviews (construction drawings, construction materials, etc.) and inspections. The initial escrow check shall be valued at 10% of the construction cost estimate, or \$5,000, whichever is greater. The check shall be made payable to the PWSA.

The escrow shall be drawn upon as the PWSA incurs inspection and engineering costs. If the outstanding work exceeds the value of the escrow account, the PWSA shall request additional funds. Failure to provide the additional funds shall result in the cessation of PWSA involvement. At project completion, the developer shall be provided an application for refund to claim any unused money still contained within the escrow account.



**Construction Schedule**

The developer shall provide a copy of the contractor's proposed construction schedule. The PWSA will utilize the schedule to determine if the inspections will be performed internally (i.e. PWSA staff) or externally (i.e. third-party on-call consultant).

**Construction Management and Construction Inspection**

The developer shall coordinate with the PWSA project manager to procure construction management and construction inspection (CM/CI) services for the work contained within the Development Agreement. The PWSA will either perform the CM/CI with internal resources (i.e. PWSA staff) or external resources (i.e. on-call consultants). There are many factors that will influence how the CM/CI will be performed, including but not limited to, the scope of the work, allocation of internal resources in relation to the proposed schedule, type of work, etc. There are no exceptions to this requirement: all work shall require CM/CI oversight. Changes to the construction start date shall require input and approval from the CM/CI team to ensure availability.

The following approvals shall also be required prior to construction start-up, but are not typically on the critical path:

**Performance Securities**

A performance security shall be required by the PWSA to ensure the developer constructs the work in accordance with the development agreement. The developer shall furnish a performance security in the amount equal to 100 percent of the construction cost estimate. The performance security may be in the form of a performance bond or other form acceptable to PWSA. The PWSA shall be the only named obligee on the security.

Please note that the City may impose separate bonding requirements for street or sidewalk restoration.

**Insurance**

The Developer shall provide a Certificate of Insurance, with PWSA listed as additionally insured, in accordance with the following coverage requirements:

Commercial General Liability: \$1 million per occurrence and in the aggregate

Automobile Liability: \$ 1 million per occurrence and in the aggregate

The Developer's policies shall also require thirty (30) days' prior written notice to the Authority of any cancellation, amendment, or non-renewal of the policies

**Executed Contract Between the Developer and Contractor**

The Developer shall submit an executed contract with the selected Contractor for the proposed work.



**Construction Specifications**

The PWSA Project Manager shall provide the Developer the relevant specifications per the approved construction drawings. The Developer shall ensure that their Contractor performs the work in accordance with the specifications. Please see below for a typical list of relevant PWSA specifications:

- 01510 – Sewer Bypass Pumping
- 01520 – Temporary Water Service
- 02060 – Aggregates for Earthwork
- 02082 – Public Manholes and Structures
- 02085 – Water Utility Distribution Valves
- 02086 – Water Utility Fire Hydrants
- 02281 – Manhole and Catch Basin Grade Adjustment
- 02332 – Service Line Verification
- 02324 – Trenching, Backfilling and Compaction
- 02513 – Public Water Distribution Piping
- 02515 – Water Service Connections
- 02516 – Disinfection of Water Distribution Systems
- 02539 – Public Sanitary and Storm Sewer Piping
- 02630 – Storm Drainage
- 02650 – Sewer and Manhole Cleaning
- 02721 – Aggregate Base Courses
- 02951 – TV Inspection of Sewer Pipelines
- 02952 – Sewer and Manhole Testing
- 02971 – Relining of Sewers – Cured-In Place
- 03300 – Cast-in Place Concrete
- 03600 – Grout

**Construction Materials**

The developer shall submit the proposed construction materials (i.e. shop drawings, cut sheets, submittals) for PWSA approval. The construction materials must comply with PWSA specifications. Please be advised that the usage of rejected or unapproved materials may result in the PWSA not accepting the constructed facilities.

**Third-Party Approvals**

The developer shall remain responsible to obtain all third-party approvals. Please refer to the PWSA's Agency Resource and Contact Information webpage for additional information on commonly involved agencies.



**Easements for Construction on Private Property**

The PWSA requires the construction of new facilities to be located within the public right-of-way. In the event that the aforementioned requirement is unfeasible, and the proposed facilities need to be located on private property, the PWSA shall require a recorded easement. The developer must show recorded proof that all easements and/or encroachments exist in the records of the City and/or County Recorder of Deeds. The minimum easement width is 20-feet centered on the facility. The construction of adjacent facilities would result in a wider easement. In addition, the PWSA may request additional width for reasons including, but not limited to, the following:

- Large diameter facilities, typically defined as greater than 24-inches
- Excessive depths
- Soil conditions
- Site obstructions

**Pre-Construction Meeting**

The PWSA shall require a pre-construction meeting on-site. The required attendees include the PWSA Project Manager, PWSA Inspector, developer, developer's design engineer and developer's contractor. The topics of discussion shall include introductions, roles and responsibilities, inspection protocols, close-out procedures, testing requirements, open discussion, etc.

**Acceptance of Privately Constructed Public Facilities**

The following approvals shall also be required prior to issuance of the Notice of Acceptability letter:

**As-Built Drawings**

The developer shall supply as-built drawings for review and approval at project completion. The PWSA will accept redline drawings, provided the plans are in neat condition, and free from dirt, tears, staining, etc. During construction, the Contractor shall meet with the construction inspector at regular intervals to exchange as-built information. The redlines shall include, but not be limited to, invert elevations, structure locations, slopes, fitting locations, etc. The PWSA shall be provided the opportunity to capture GPS coordinates during construction to update the GIS database.

**Maintenance Securities**

Upon completion of the work, the developer shall furnish a maintenance bond in the amount equal to 15 percent of the construction cost estimate for a period of 18



months. The PWSA shall be the only named obligee on each security. Please note that the City may impose separate bonding requirements for street or sidewalk restoration.

## Design Requirements

The PWSA design standards are contained within the Checklist of Requirements for Construction Drawings. Please refer to the PWSA website for the latest version. Please see below for additional information:

### **General Requirements**

- The existing PWSA facilities shall be clearly indicated with the appropriate identification number, including but not limited to, sewer mains, water mains, gate valves, drainage structures, manholes, fire hydrants, etc.
- The subsurface utility engineering (SUE) performed to locate the existing utilities shall comply with a quality level C, which involves the gps surveying of visible utility facilities (e.g. manhole covers, valve boxes, drainage structure grates). This data shall be utilized to update the location of existing facilities. For example, water mains shall be shown through gate valves and sewer mains shall be shown through manholes.
- Work located within PennDOT right-of-way shall require a Highway Occupancy Permit. Please note that PennDOT shall require the PWSA to submit the permit application on behalf of the developer.
- The developer shall consider the proximity and depth of adjacent utilities to determine if the proposed work is feasible. Please note that the large majority of PWSA facilities rely upon the surrounding soil to maintain structural integrity. Close excavations, and removal of that support, often results in water main and sewer main breaks. The PWSA may require that facilities be shut down during construction. The developer would be responsible to provide temporary water services to any impacted customers.
- The private construction of public facilities shall be limited to situations where the existing infrastructure is incapable of providing the required level of service.
- The proposed facilities shall be designed and constructed in accordance with PWSA specifications.

### **Sewer Requirements**

- Sewers shall be constructed at a depth sufficient to serve nearby basements and future growth. The PWSA may require additional depth, as directed.
- Sewer mains shall be designed in accordance with the DEP's Wastewater Facilities Manual and PWSA standards, whichever is more stringent.
- Where possible, combined and storm sewer shall be designed with a minimum slope of 2.00% and sanitary sewers shall be designed with a minimum slope of 1.00%. Please note these requirements exceed the DEP's Wastewater Facilities Manual. Exceptions are made on a case-by-case basis.



- The pipe material required is dependent upon the depth and diameter. Per the design conditions, the PWSA accepts the following types of materials: PVC (SDR 26), PVC (PS115), RCP (Class IV), DIP (Class 52, epoxy lined).
- The design shall consider the need for bypass pumping, which may necessitate flow monitoring. The developer shall ensure that upstream and downstream manhole access is available. Discharge piping shall not interfere with roadway or pedestrian traffic.
- Connections to new sewer extensions shall be made at a pre-constructed wye fitting. The use of a cored connection (e.g. Inserta Tee) shall be prohibited.
- Storm sewers need to account for the future separation of combined sewer laterals. Typically, this separate would occur at the time of property owner transfer. The developer shall be responsible to extend a lateral stub to the curb line of the street and GPS locate the terminus.

#### **Manhole Requirements**

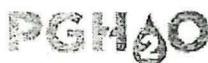
- The barrel and cone sections of the manhole be constructed of pre-cast concrete. For vertical grade adjustments up to 3-inches, the developer shall use rubber adjustment rings. For vertical grade adjustments up to 12-inches, the developer shall use pre-cast concrete adjustment rings. Riser rings shall not extend more than 12-inches from the cone section.
- The PWSA will accept either a cast-in place base or a pre-cast concrete base. However, please be advised that cast-in place bases are strongly advised, as they offer greater construction flexibility. The PWSA only constructs cast-in place bases for our capital improvement projects.
- For situations where the inflowing sewer diameter is smaller than the outflowing sewer diameter, the manhole shall be constructed in such a way that the crown of the inflowing pipe is level with the crown of the outflowing sewer.

#### **Drainage Structure Requirements**

- The construction of drainage structures in-series shall be prohibited. Each drainage structure shall have a separate connection to either a manhole or the sewer main. As such, if a drainage structure becomes clogged with debris, it will not impact the performance of any upstream drainage structures.
- The PWSA recognizes two types of drainage structures: inlets and catch basins. Please note that both inlets and catch basins require a 20-inch sump for the collection of debris. The principal difference is that a catch basin requires a stench plate to prevent malodors from permeating out the drainage structure. Inlets are typically required on storm sewer connections, and catch basins are required on combined sewer and sanitary sewer connections.

#### **Cured-in Place Pipe (CIPP) Requirements**

- The PWSA accepts CIPP as a suitable method to terminate active lateral connections. Typically, this methodology is useful when PWSA sewers are located under highly trafficked streets.
- The use of point lining shall be prohibited.



- Please be advised that not all sewers are adequate candidates for CIPP. The developer shall provide CCTV of the host sewer to confirm eligibility.

#### **Water Main Requirements**

- The proposed water main shall be looped; dead end mains shall be prohibited.
- The main material shall be ductile iron pipe, class 52, zinc coated. The minimum diameter shall be 8-inches.
- The water main shall require a pressure test and bacteriological test prior to acceptance by the PWSA. The proposed design shall include gate valves at strategic locations to isolate the main to perform these tests.
- For services up to and including 1-inches, the PWSA owns the service from the water main to the curb stop and curb box.
- The developer shall be prohibited from reconnecting a private lead service line to a newly constructed water main. As such, the developer shall be required to replace the lead service line at their cost. The PWSA can assist with notification procedures, etc.

#### **Fire Hydrant Requirements**

- The developer may be required to construct fire hydrants, as directed by the PWSA or City, depending on the proximity of the nearest hydrant and the length of the proposed extension.
- The hydrant gate valve shall be directly mounted onto the swivel tee.

#### **Profile Requirements**

- Profiles shall be required for sewer mains, drainage structure laterals and water mains.
- Profiles shall indicate the location of crossed utilities, which shall be drawn per the outside diameter. Please note that the outside diameter can be significantly different than the nominal diameter. For instance, a 24" reinforced concrete pipe has an internal diameter of 24-inches and an outside diameter of 30-inches. Crossed utilities shall have a minimum vertical clearance of 18-inches from outer surface to outer surface.
- For sewer, the profile shall include lateral design information including the minimum depth to serve customer connections via gravity flow.
- For water, the crown of the main shall be 4-feet from the ground surface

#### **Tap-in Drawings**

Tap-in drawings are required when the development includes all the following:

- Development of lots,
- Construction of public storm sewer and/or sanitary sewer and/or waterline,
- Construction of building(s),



- Construction of laterals and service lines from building(s) to the new sewer and/or water lines, and
- Change in use of an existing facility (Redevelopment).

Tap-in drawings **are not** required when the development is **limited to** the following:

- Development of lots, and
- Construction of public storm sewer and/or sanitary sewer and/or waterline.

Under the second scenario where the developer only develops the lots and constructs the PWSA facilities, the responsibility of applying for sewer and water taps falls on the future property owner whenever that owner decides to connect to the PWSA facilities.

Tap-in drawings for storm sewers, sanitary sewers, and waterlines can be submitted at any time but cannot be approved until the private construction drawings have been approved by PWSA. Please refer to the Tap-in Procedures of this manual.



# NOTICE

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# PWSA Announces Approval of New Rate Structure Including Stormwater Fee

11/18/2021

**Changes to provide greater equity and prioritize stormwater management investment.**

Today, the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority announces that changes to water and wastewater conveyance rates and the adoption of a new stormwater fee were approved by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) during their November

## EXHIBIT B

18th public meeting. The new rates will go into effect on January 12, 2022. This is the final step in the ratemaking process that started with PWSA's rate request submitted on April 13, 2021.

The new rates, including the stormwater fee, will generate \$21 million in additional revenue phased in over two years. In 2022, revenue will increase by \$17 million, and in 2023 it will increase by an additional \$4 million. The average residential customer using 3,000 gallons of water per month will see an increase of \$5.65 in 2022 and an increase of \$1.44 in 2023.

With the approval of the new rates, the typical residential customer enrolled in our low-income customer assistance Bill Discount Program using 3,000 gallons of water per month will increase to \$43.09 in 2022 or by \$1.32 per month. In 2023 this will increase to \$44.15 or by \$1.06 per month. The approval also includes enhancements to our customer assistance programs and a financial incentive for consumers to enroll in auto-pay.

"Today's approval of our new rates and the stormwater fee reflect the ongoing renewal of our water and sewer infrastructure and will significantly change how we fund stormwater improvements," stated Will Pickering, PWSA's Chief Executive Officer.

"With input from the PUC and community stakeholders, we developed a balanced rate settlement that prioritizes the needs of our most vulnerable customers and the investment we must make to ensure the safety and reliability of our water, sewer, and stormwater systems," Pickering stated. "We appreciate their participation and the continued support from our customers. As a publicly owned and operated utility, every dollar we receive from our ratepayers is reinvested to provide the water services Pittsburgh expects and deserves."

## **Expanded Customer Assistance Programs**

With any rate increase, we must consider the affordability of rates and provide our most vulnerable customers with the assistance they need. The PUC approval provides additional enhancements to existing customer assistance programs that will help

customers reduce outstanding balances, save on their monthly bill, and expand current programs to more customers.

Among other benefits, PWSA will double the monthly arrearage forgiveness credit from \$15 to \$30 for on-time payments made by customers who are enrolled in the Bill Discount Program and on an active payment plan; very low-income customers enrolled in the Bill Discount Program will receive a 50% discount on water usage charges, and all customers enrolled in the Bill Discount Program will receive an 85% discount on the stormwater charge. Additionally, PWSA will continue to waive reconnection fees for all customers in 2022. We are also expanding the Hardship Grant Program to include sewage-only customers, and all verified low-income customers will automatically be enrolled in the Winter Shutoff Moratorium.

The PGH2O Cares team, established earlier this year, will continue its proactive outreach and education to customers who are eligible for our customer assistance programs. Their one-on-one interaction with customers is providing the extra boost many need to enroll in our programs to receive the support they deserve. PGH2O Cares is an essential feature of our existing customer assistance programs, and we are seeing that their efforts are working to build awareness and increase enrollment.

## **The Stormwater Fee: A notable change for Pittsburgh**

Historically, we have funded our stormwater services from wastewater rates that are based on water usage. The new stormwater fee is based on the hard or impervious surfaces on a property. This ensures that all property owners in Pittsburgh contribute a share that is proportional to the amount of runoff generated by their property. Establishing a fee that is based on hard surfaces such as roofs, pavement, and asphalt is a more equitable way to charge for stormwater.

As part of the implementation of the new stormwater fee, wastewater conveyance rates will decrease since the new stormwater fee will begin to recover the stormwater costs previously included.

The new stormwater fee is a significant change to our rate structure. It provides a dedicated funding source for stormwater management and puts us on the path to, over time, increase investment in stormwater projects that include improvements to our sewer system and green infrastructure like rain gardens and street planters to help catch, retain, and filter stormwater runoff.

Outreach and education remain a priority as we implement the stormwater fee and advance the strategic planning that is currently underway. We will continue to engage with community members and stakeholders to provide a basic understanding of the fee and to seek input on the stormwater issues that are of most concern in their neighborhoods. Community engagement and education is essential to ensure the success of our stormwater planning efforts, provide a reasonable level of protection from intense and heavy rains, and to understand how we can work together to improve the health and well-being of Pittsburgh neighborhoods.

For more information about the stormwater program, please visit [www.pgh2ostormwater.com](http://www.pgh2ostormwater.com).

## **Calculating the Stormwater Fee**

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Impervious surface is the hard surface on a property such as roofs, concrete, and asphalt that do not absorb stormwater. These hard surfaces generate stormwater runoff that collect trash and send polluted water into local waterways. Runoff can also overwhelm our sewer system causing streets to flood, basements to backup, and sewage to overflow into rivers and streams.

In Pittsburgh, the average amount of impervious surface on a property is approximately 1,650 square feet. This is equal to one equivalent residential unit (ERU) of impervious surface, which is the unit of measurement for calculating the stormwater fee and is accepted as the industry standard for determining a stormwater fee. The stormwater fee will be applied to all residential and non-residential properties in Pittsburgh in the following way:

Stormwater Monthly Fees (Based on Impervious Surface)	ERUs	2022	2023
Residential Tier 1 (>=400 to <1,015 sf)	.5	\$2.98	\$3.98
Residential Tier 2 (>=1,015 to <2,710 sf)	1	\$5.96	\$7.95
Residential Tier 3 (>=2,710 sf)	2	\$11.92	\$15.90
Non-Residential	Per ERU	\$5.96	\$7.95

70% of all Pittsburgh homeowners fall into Residential Tier 2

As part of implementing the stormwater fee, a credits program will be available to residential and non-residential properties. Residential property owners can reduce their stormwater fee by installing certain measures to control stormwater runoff from their properties, such as redirecting downspouts into street planters where applicable or installing a rain garden. Non-residential customers can receive up to a 60% maximum credit by meeting the City’s 2019 stormwater development standards.

Additionally, customers will have access to an online searchable database to view their property, the amount of impervious surface, and the number of ERUs charged to the property. An appeals process will also be available if you believe that the total number of ERUs and associated stormwater fee should be different. These resources, along with the application process to apply for the stormwater credit, will be available when the stormwater fee goes into effect next year.

For more information about the stormwater fee, please visit [www.pgh2o.com/stormwater-fee](http://www.pgh2o.com/stormwater-fee).

## How Will Your Bill Change?

PWSA's rate increase is carefully allocated to increase revenue where it is needed most. The typical residential customer using 3,000 gallons of water per month currently pays \$79.34 per month under the existing rates. When the new rates go into effect in early 2022, this is expected to increase to \$84.99 in 2022 or by \$5.65 per month. In 2023, this will increase to \$86.43 or by \$1.44 per month.

**Proposed Rates: Residential Customers with DSIC**

Minimum Charges	Monthly Usage	2021 Existing Water	2021 Existing Wastewater Conveyance	2021 DSIC	2021 Existing Total	2022 Proposed Water	2022 Proposed Wastewater Conveyance	2022 Proposed Stormwater	2022 DSIC	2022 Proposed Total	Monthly Impact \$
5/8	1,000 gal	\$27.27	\$8.51	\$1.79	\$37.57	\$27.00	\$8.09	\$5.96	\$1.75	\$42.80	\$5.23
5/8	3,000 gal	\$51.77	\$23.79	\$3.78	\$79.34	\$53.20	\$22.07	\$5.96	\$3.76	\$84.99	\$5.65
5/8	5,000 gal	\$76.27	\$39.07	\$5.77	\$121.11	\$79.40	\$36.05	\$5.96	\$5.77	\$127.18	\$8.07
5/8	7,000 gal	\$100.77	\$54.35	\$7.76	\$162.88	\$105.60	\$50.03	\$5.96	\$7.78	\$169.37	\$6.49
5/8	12,000 gal	\$162.02	\$92.55	\$12.73	\$267.30	\$171.10	\$84.98	\$5.96	\$12.80	\$274.84	\$7.54
1	20,000 gal	\$273.57	\$155.52	\$21.45	\$450.54	\$290.67	\$139.85	\$5.96	\$21.53	\$458.02	\$7.48

The typical residential customer enrolled in our low-income customer assistance Bill Discount Program using 3,000 gallons of water per month currently pays \$41.77 per month under the existing rates. With the approval of the new rates, this will change to \$43.09 in 2022 or by \$1.32 per month. In 2023 this will increase to \$44.15 or by \$1.06 per month.

**Proposed Rates: Customers Eligible for Bill Discount Program**

Minimum Charges	Monthly Usage	2021 Existing Water	2021 Existing Wastewater Conveyance	2021 DSIC	2021 Existing Total	2022 Proposed Water	2022 Proposed Wastewater Conveyance	2022 Proposed Stormwater	2022 DSIC	2022 Proposed Total	Monthly Impact \$
5/8	1,000 gal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.90	\$0.00	\$0.90	\$0.90
5/8	2,000 gal	\$12.25	\$7.64	\$0.99	\$20.88	\$13.10	\$6.99	\$0.90	\$1.00	\$21.99	\$1.11
5/8	3,000 gal	\$24.50	\$15.28	\$1.99	\$41.77	\$26.20	\$13.98	\$0.90	\$2.01	\$43.09	\$1.32
5/8	4,000 gal	\$36.75	\$22.92	\$2.98	\$62.65	\$39.30	\$20.97	\$0.90	\$3.01	\$64.18	\$1.53
5/8	5,000 gal	\$49.00	\$30.56	\$3.98	\$83.54	\$52.40	\$27.96	\$0.90	\$4.02	\$85.28	\$1.74

# Ongoing Investment in Water and Wastewater Systems

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To provide customers with safe and reliable water, sewer, and stormwater services, we must invest in the infrastructure we use each day. We are currently implementing an ambitious \$1.2 billion capital program that includes replacing water mains, rehabilitating aging sewer lines, constructing new stormwater infrastructure, and implementing the [Water Reliability Plan](#)—a series of once-in-a-generation projects to renew key components of our water production and distribution systems.

As a publicly owned and managed water, sewer, and stormwater authority, every dollar we receive from ratepayers is reinvested back into our infrastructure and the improvements we are making to provide high-quality services to our customers.

For more information on the new rates approved today and our plans for renewing our water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure, please visit [www.pgh2o.com/ourwaterfuture](http://www.pgh2o.com/ourwaterfuture).

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## Related Press Releases

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## **PWSA Director of Engineering and Construction Recognized in Local Business Journal**

02/18/2022 - Pittsburgh Business Times Honors PWSA Director of Engineering and Construction, Barry King.

| Press Release

## PWSA Expands Customer Assistance Programs

02/15/2022 - Simplified enrollment and expanded access to reduce your PGH2O bill.

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412-430-3898



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Pittsburgh  
Water & Sewer  
Authority

December 23, 2021

Office Partners XXII Block G1 LLC  
1000 N. West Street  
Wilmington DE 19801

**RE: Address TBD - 15219  
Water and Sewer Tap-in Plans**

Dear Office Partners XXII Block G1 LLC,

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) has approved the tap-in plans for the above referenced project.

The fees have been calculated and are attached for your reference. Permits are not considered issued until permit fees are paid.

Due to the closure of the PWSA permit counter in response to COVID-19, payments will be accepted by mail only. Please send check or money order to Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority at 1200 Penn Avenue, PGH, PA, 15222, Attention: Permits. Permits will be processed and emailed after payment is received.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (412) 255-8800 x8030.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Wendy M. Dean'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wendy M. Dean  
Engineering Tech II

Attachment

cc: PWSA File

## Exhibit C

Penn Liberty Plaza I  
1200 Penn Avenue  
Pittsburgh PA 15222

info@pgh2o.com  
T 412.255.2423  
F 412.255.2475

www.pgh2o.com  
@pgh2o

Customer Service /  
Emergencies:  
412.255.2423



Pittsburgh  
Water & Sewer  
Authority

**C-2060**  
**OFFICE PARTNERS XXII BLOCK G1 LLC**  
**Address TBD**

96.53	Water EDU's	=	\$214,682.72
96.53	Sewer EDU's	=	\$287,466.34
(1)	6" tap	=	\$1,314.43
(1)	8" tap	=	\$1,349.95
(1)	4" tap	=	\$1,106.35
(1)	1.5" meter	=	\$492.00 – Domestic Positive Displacement
(1)	3" meter	=	\$1,668.00 – Compound Domestic
(1)	5/8" x 3/4" meter	=	\$235.00 – Fire Line

**TOTAL = \$508,314.79**

**Please make check or money order payable to PWSA or Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority. The approved permit will be processed and emailed after payment has been received.**

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE \*\***  
**PAYMENT FOR PERMITS MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN 6 MONTHS FROM 12/23/2021. IF PERMITS ARE NOT PAID FOR WITHIN THIS PERIOD, THIS PROJECT AND PLANS WILL BE VOIDED AND WILL REQUIRE THIS PROJECT TO START FROM THE BEGINNING.**

**Erin M. Spencer**

---

**Subject:** FW: Lower Hill G1/G4 Tap In Application

**From:** Savich, Steven  
**Sent:** Monday, January 31, 2022 3:01 PM  
**To:** Julie Ascioffa <jasciolla@pgh2o.com>  
**Cc:** Toby Partridge <tpartridge@mbakerintl.com>; mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com; Boris Kaplan <bkaplan@bpggroup.net>  
**Subject:** Lower Hill G1/G4 Tap In Application

Julie –

I wanted to give you the heads up that, after much internal discussion, the owner of the project will be withdrawing their current Tap-In permit application and submitting new applications later this week. In further evaluation of the project program and path forward for the planning module they feel it is most prudent to separate the G1 and G4 parcels for a few reasons:

First, the ownership entities for each of these parcels will be different and in turn so would the ultimate holder of the permitted sewage facilities.

Second, the sewer (and water) usage for the G4 parcel is still unknown at this time. The landscape and configuration is set but the facilities for small business retail uses are still being determined.

Third, there is a concern that PADEP will not approve the combined G1 / G4 application since the outcome of the meetings with them allowed for the development of the G1 parcel only under the capacity of the overall block.

With that said, there is still a need for expediency in getting to final permit for the G1 block. The intent would be to file the permit application as an expedited application under the new guidance. This would guarantee an initial review period of 15 days, correct? We will review all of the updated forms and process to ensure we have met the requirements and provide the checklist with the new application to allow for PWSA staff to better review the application. Please let me know what you will need from the owner to withdraw the current application and to establish the new project email within ebuilder and confirm path forward for the new application.

If you like, we can touch base later today to discuss in more detail.

Thanks!

**Steven Savich** | Vice President, Practice Executive - LD&I  
100 Airside Drive, Airside Business Park | Moon Township, PA 15108 | [O] 412-269-6467 | [M] 330-550-4579  
[ssavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com) | [www.mbakerintl.com](http://www.mbakerintl.com)

**Exhibit D**

**Partridge, Toby**

---

**From:** Partridge, Toby  
**Sent:** Friday, February 4, 2022 4:49 PM  
**To:** Robert Herring, PE, PMP; Shannon Connell  
**Cc:** Developer\_Tap\_in\_Pe.20014.72\_Washington\_Place\_and\_Bedford\_Avenue@docs.e-builder.net; Julie Ascioffa; Savich, Steven  
**Subject:** Lower Hill - Revised Tap-in Plans  
**Attachments:** Lower Hill - Proposed Water and Sanitary Calculations (Block G1) - 2022.02.04.pdf; Lower Hill - G1 Tap Plans - 2022.02.04.pdf; Lower Hill - G4 Tap Plans - 2022.02.04.pdf

Rob and Shannon,

The revised Tap-in plans for the Lower Hill Block G1 and G4 are attached. Please note that the plans have been split into two sets, one for parcel G1 and one for parcel G4. We also removed the G4 parcel water and sanitary taps as the program for that parcel is still being developed.

I have also included updated Water and Sewer Use calculations for the G1 parcel only.

Please let me know if you have any questions,  
Toby

Toby Partridge | Technical Manager - Civil and Environmental  
Michael Baker International | *We Make a Difference*  
100 Airside Drive, Airside Business Park | Moon Township, PA 15108  
[O] 412-375-3186  
tpartridge@mbakerintl.com | www.mbakerintl.com

**Exhibit E**

## Partridge, Toby

---

**From:** Partridge, Toby  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 15, 2022 12:16 PM  
**To:** Shannon Connell, EIT  
**Cc:** Robert Herring, PE, PMP; Savich, Steven; Developer\_Tap\_in\_Pe.20014.72  
\_Washington\_Place\_and\_Bedford\_Avenue@docs.e-builder.net  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Lower Hill Development - Revised Tap-in Plans  
**Attachments:** C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Ave\_Rev Feb 14 2022.docx; Lower Hill - G1 Tap  
Plans - Rev 2022.02.15.pdf

Hi Shannon,

The revised Tap-in plans are attached. Please note that the left most kiosk needs to remain. It is a utility kiosk/building for various other utilities.

I also took a stab at calculating the new Tap-in fee based on these drawings. Can you confirm the amount?

Thanks,  
Toby

**From:** Shannon Connell, EIT <SConnell@pgh2o.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2022 4:49 PM  
**To:** Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>; Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>  
**Cc:** Robert Herring, PE, PMP <RHerring@pgh2o.com>  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: RE: Lower Hill Development - Revised Tap-in Plans

Per our conversation earlier today, please see the attached markup with my comments of the changes needed for the revised tap-in plans.

Have a good weekend!  
Shannon



Shannon Connell, EIT  
Engineer III  
Ext: 5523

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

<https://pgh2o.com>



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Pittsburgh  
Water & Sewer  
Authority

February 22, 2022

Mr. Thomas Flanagan  
PA Department of Environmental Protection  
Clean Water Program  
400 Waterfront Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Subject: Tap Allocation Authorization Letter

Dear Mr. Flanagan:

Please be advised that the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) authorizes the tap allocations associated with the following Project:

Project Name:	Washington Place and Bedford Avenue - Revised
Project Address:	626 Washington Place Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Net Flow, gpd:	29,250
EDU's, 400gpd/EDU:	73.13

Our review is based on information provided by others under the assumption that this information was accurate and complete. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at x5523 or SConnell@pgh2o.com.

Sincerely,

Shannon Connell, EIT  
Engineer III

cc: Barry King, PE, PMP – PWSA (via email)  
Kate Mechler, PE – PWSA (via email)  
Robert Herring, PE, PMP – PWSA (via email)  
Toby Partridge – Applicant (via email)  
Regis Ryan – DEP (via email)  
eBuilder – Filing System (via email)

## Exhibit G

Penn Liberty Plaza I  
1200 Penn Avenue  
Pittsburgh PA 15222

info@pgh2o.com  
T 412.255.2423  
F 412.255.2475

www.pgh2o.com  
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412.255.2423



Pittsburgh  
Water & Sewer  
Authority

February 22, 2022

Toby Partridge  
Michael Baker International  
110 Airside Drive  
Moon Twp, PA 15108

Subject: Water and Sewer (W&S) Use Approval  
Project Name: Washington Pl and Bedford Ave – REVISED (Project)  
PWSA Project No.: 20014.72

Dear Toby:

The W&S Use Application for the Project has been approved, as summarized below:

Type of Flow	Sanitary, gpd	Water, gpd
<i>Project Flow</i>	29,250	28,559
<i>Existing Flow</i>	0	0
<i>Net Flow</i>	29,250	28,559

Our review was based on information provided by others under the assumption that this information was accurate and complete. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 412-255-8800 x5523 or SConnell@pgh2o.com.

Sincerely,

Shannon Connell, EIT  
Engineer III

Enclosure(s)

cc: Barry King, PE, PMP – PWSA (via email)  
Kate Mechler, PE – PWSA (via email)  
Robert Herring, PE, PMP – PWSA (via email)  
eBuilder – Filing System (via email)

**Partridge, Toby**

---

**From:** Partridge, Toby  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2022 1:46 PM  
**To:** Shannon Connell, EIT; Robert Herring, PE, PMP  
**Cc:** Developer\_Tap\_in\_Pe.20014.72\_Washington\_Place\_and\_Bedford\_Avenue@docs.e-builder.net  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: PWSA Development Application - Tap-in Plan Review Comments - Revised Washington Pl and Bedford Ave  
**Attachments:** Lower Hill - G1 Tap Plans - Rev 2022.02.23.pdf

Thanks Shannon,  
The attached drawings have been revised as requested below.

Thanks,  
Toby

**Toby Partridge** | Technical Manager - Civil and Environmental  
100 Airside Drive, Airside Business Park | Moon Township, PA 15108 | [O] 412-375-3186  
tpartridge@mbakerintl.com | [www.mbakerial.com](http://www.mbakerial.com) f t @ in



**From:** Shannon Connell, EIT <SConnell@pgh2o.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2022 11:27 AM  
**To:** Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>; Robert Herring, PE, PMP <RHerring@pgh2o.com>  
**Cc:** Developer\_Tap\_in\_Pe.20014.72\_Washington\_Place\_and\_Bedford\_Avenue@docs.e-builder.net  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: PWSA Development Application - Tap-in Plan Review Comments - Revised Washington Pl and Bedford Ave

Hi Toby,

Per our Developer's Manual: "If a permit is issued, an additional \$250 fee will be required for any revisions to plans."

Because revisions were made to the approved Water & Sewer Use application and to the approved Tap-in Plans, a second review fee is required.

Thanks,  
Shannon



Shannon Connell, EIT  
Engineer III  
Ext: 5523

**Exhibit H**

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

<https://pgh2o.com>



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**From:** Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2022 10:30 AM  
**To:** Robert Herring, PE, PMP <[RHerring@pgh2o.com](mailto:RHerring@pgh2o.com)>; Shannon Connell, EIT <[SConnell@pgh2o.com](mailto:SConnell@pgh2o.com)>  
**Cc:** [Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net](mailto:Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net)  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: PWSA Development Application - Tap-in Plan Review Comments - Revised Washington PI and Bedford Ave

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Hi Rob,

Understood and my apologies for being tiresome. I was just looking for a quick 5-10 minute conversation, not a long meeting, to make sure this round of review captured everything required for approval.

Can you provide the reason for the additional review fee? The Developer will want to know.

We'll have the drawings resubmitted this morning. No need for a call.

Toby

**From:** Robert Herring, PE, PMP <[RHerring@pgh2o.com](mailto:RHerring@pgh2o.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2022 9:35 AM  
**To:** Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>; Shannon Connell, EIT <[SConnell@pgh2o.com](mailto:SConnell@pgh2o.com)>  
**Cc:** [Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net](mailto:Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net)  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: PWSA Development Application - Tap-in Plan Review Comments - Revised Washington PI and Bedford Ave

Toby,

I reviewed the markups and they are self-explanatory. Do you have a specific question? We are tired of meeting over every minor issue associated with this Project.



Robert Herring, PE, PMP

Senior Project Manager  
Office: 412.255.8800  
Ext: 5532

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

<https://pgh2o.com>



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**From:** Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 22, 2022 5:20 PM  
**To:** Shannon Connell, EIT <[SConnell@pgh2o.com](mailto:SConnell@pgh2o.com)>  
**Cc:** Robert Herring, PE, PMP <[RHerring@pgh2o.com](mailto:RHerring@pgh2o.com)>;  
[Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net](mailto:Developer_Tap_in_Pe.20014.72_Washington_Place_and_Bedford_Avenue@docs.e-builder.net)  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: PWSA Development Application - Tap-in Plan Review Comments - Revised Washington Pl and Bedford Ave

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Shannon,

Do have 10 minutes for a quick call tomorrow morning around 8:30? I need to make sure that these drawings get everything required on them so they can be approved.

Thanks,  
Toby

**From:** Shannon Connell, EIT <[SConnell@pgh2o.com](mailto:SConnell@pgh2o.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 22, 2022 4:04 PM  
**To:** Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>  
**Cc:** Robert Herring, PE, PMP <[RHerring@pgh2o.com](mailto:RHerring@pgh2o.com)>;  
[Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net](mailto:Developer_Tap_in_Pe.20014.72_Washington_Place_and_Bedford_Avenue@docs.e-builder.net)  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: PWSA Development Application - Tap-in Plan Review Comments - Revised Washington Pl and Bedford Ave

Toby,

We have reviewed the Tap-in Plan for the Revised Washington Pl and Bedford Ave Project. Please address the following comments:

- The Development Application is administratively incomplete. Please submit the application fee in the amount of \$250 to Wendy Dean ([wdean@pgh2o.com](mailto:wdean@pgh2o.com)). The application fee may be hand-delivered or mailed.
- Please revise the Tap-In Plan in accordance with the enclosed mark-ups.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Thanks,



Shannon Connell, EIT  
Engineer III  
Ext: 5523

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

<https://pgh2o.com>



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### 2022 Fee Schedule

<b>Residential Tap-In Permit*</b>	\$40.00
<b>Water and Sewer Availability Letter Request Only</b>	\$40.00
<b>Tap Termination Only Permit</b>	\$250.00
<b>Hydrant Flow Test</b>	\$410.00
<b>Maps and Records Request</b>	\$40.00
* There is no fee for party line separations.	

Connection Fee (based on size of tap in inches, fees are 1.5x for work performed outside business hrs.)	
1"	\$340.00
4"	\$400.00
6"	\$400.00
8"	\$400.00
10"	\$400.00
12"	\$400.00

<b>Development Permit (includes W/S Availability Letter, DEP SFPM Review, and tap-in plan review)</b>	\$740.00
<b>**Expedited</b>	\$1,290.00
<b>DEP Sewage Facilities Planning Module Review Only</b>	\$320.00
<b>**Expedited</b>	\$550.00
<b>Tap-in Drawing Review Only</b>	\$420.00
<b>**Expedited</b>	\$740.00
<b>Development Permit Revisions</b>	\$140.00
<b>Private Construction of Public Facilities Review</b>	\$880.00
<b>**Expedited</b>	\$1,190.00
**Expedited guarantees review within 15 business days of payment	

Water Meters (based on size of meter in inches, purchased from and installed by PWSA)	
<b>Domestic</b>	
5/8"	\$190.00
5/8 x 3/4"	\$190.00
3/4" (Positive displacement)	\$210.00
3/4" (Electromagnetic or Ultrasonic)	\$220.00
<b>Domestic (Turbine)</b>	
1" (Positive Displacement)	\$240.00
1-1/2"	\$680.00
2"	\$840.00
<b>Domestic (Compound)</b>	
3"	\$1,540.00
4"	\$1,600.00
6"	\$2,550.00
8"	\$3,850.00
10"	\$5,560.00
12"	\$6,490.00
16"	\$9,090.00
<b>Fire Systems (Turbine)</b>	
3"	\$2,320.00
4"	\$2,670.00
6"	\$3,420.00
8"	\$5,120.00
10"	\$10,740.00
<b>Fire Systems (Compound)</b>	
4"	\$4,460.00
6"	\$5,990.00
8"	\$9,370.00
10"	\$10,570.00

Waterline Shut (based on size of waterline in inches)	
<b>During normal business hours</b>	
4-12"	\$300.00
16-48"	\$410.00
<b>After normal business hours</b>	
4-12"	\$430.00
16-48"	\$600.00

Hydrant Use with Meter Permit (based on meter size in inches)	
5/8"	\$250.00
5/8 x 3/4"	\$250.00
3/4" (Positive displacement)	\$270.00
3/4" (Electromagnetic or Ultrasonic)	\$280.00
1" (Positive Displacement)	\$300.00
1" (Electromagnetic or Ultrasonic)	\$310.00
2 1/2"	\$970.00

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, David M. Nernberg, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the within **Formal Complaint** was served upon all parties to the within matter, this date, by email, addressed as follows:

Samuel A. Hornak, Esq.  
CLARK HILL PLC  
One Oxford Centre  
301 Grant Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
[shornak@clarkhill.com](mailto:shornak@clarkhill.com)

Date: 6/17/22

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David M. Nernberg

IN THE PENNSYLVANIA UTILITY COMMISSION

OFFICE PARTNERS XXII BLOCK G1 LLC,

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Petitioner,

v.

PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER  
AUTHORITY,

Respondent.

ORDER

AND NOW, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 it is hereby ORDERED that the applicable fees are the 2022 fees pled in this complaint, and the permit is issued based upon the 2022 rate schedule and all funds held in Court in excess of the amount due under the rate schedule be returned to Office Partners.

BY THE COURT

\_\_\_\_\_.J.



December 23, 2021

Office Partners XXII Block G1 LLC  
1000 N. West Street  
Wilmington DE 19801

**RE: Address TBD - 15219  
Water and Sewer Tap-in Plans**

Dear Office Partners XXII Block G1 LLC,

The Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) has approved the tap-in plans for the above referenced project.

The fees have been calculated and are attached for your reference. Permits are not considered issued until permit fees are paid.

Due to the closure of the PWSA permit counter in response to COVID-19, payments will be accepted by mail only. Please send check or money order to Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority at 1200 Penn Avenue, PGH, PA, 15222, Attention: Permits. Permits will be processed and emailed after payment is received.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (412) 255-8800 x8030.

Sincerely,

Wendy M. Dean  
Engineering Tech II

Attachment

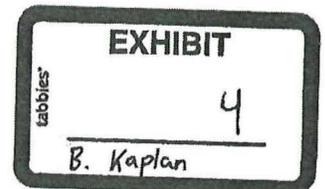
cc: PWSA File

Penn Liberty Plaza I  
1200 Penn Avenue  
Pittsburgh PA 15222

Info@pgh2o.com  
T 412.255.2423  
F 412.255.2475

www.pgh2o.com  
@pgh2o

Customer Service /  
Emergencies:  
412.255.2423



OfficePartners\_001142

## David M. Nernberg

---

**From:** Matt Corace  
**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 4:28 PM  
**To:** toby Partridge  
**Subject:** FW: [EXT] C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Avenue Final Approval Letter  
**Attachments:** Washington Pl and Bedford Avenue Final Approval.docx

This & the following the only items received by Wendy.

### Matthew Corace



1000 N. West Street, Suite 850  
WILMINGTON, DE 19801  
W 302.691.2126  
C 302.383.9005  
F 302.691.2099

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**From:** Wendy Dean <bounces@e-builder.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 23, 2021 10:32 AM  
**To:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>  
**Subject:** [EXT] C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Avenue Final Approval Letter

### Developer Tap in Permits

---

From	Wendy Dean
To	<a href="mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com">mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com</a> ;
CC	

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Wendy Dean".

C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Ave. Fee Sheet to follow

**Documents attached to this email**

1. Washington Pl and Bedford Avenue Final Approval.docx

**e-Builder Technical Support**

phone: 1-888-288-5717 fax: 1-888-576-9322  
support@e-builder.net

**David M. Nernberg**

---

**From:** Matt Corace  
**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 4:29 PM  
**To:** toby Partridge  
**Subject:** FW: [EXT] C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Avenue Fee Sheet  
**Attachments:** C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Ave.docx

2 of 2.

**Matthew Corace**



1000 N. West Street, Suite 850  
WILMINGTON, DE 19801  
W 302.691.2126  
C 302.383.9005  
F 302.691.2099

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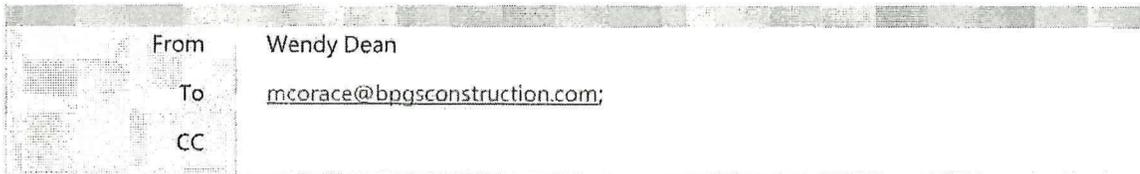
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---

**From:** Wendy Dean <bounces@e-builder.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 23, 2021 10:33 AM  
**To:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>  
**Subject:** [EXT] C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Avenue Fee Sheet

**Developer Tap in Permits**

---



Please see attached

**Documents attached to this email**

1. C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Ave.docx

**e-Builder Technical Support**

phone: 1-888-288-5717 fax: 1-888-576-9322  
support@e-builder.net

**David M. Nernberg**

---

**From:** Matt Corace  
**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 4:36 PM  
**To:** Olivia Grunseich  
**Subject:** FW: [EXT] C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Avenue Fee Sheet  
**Attachments:** C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Ave.docx

The official request / summary for tap fees

**Matthew Corace**



1000 N. West Street, Suite 850  
WILMINGTON, DE 19801  
☎ 302.691.2126  
© 302.383.9005  
F 302.691.2099

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---

**From:** Wendy Dean <bounces@e-builder.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 23, 2021 10:33 AM  
**To:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>  
**Subject:** [EXT] C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Avenue Fee Sheet

**Developer Tap in Permits**

---



Please see attached

**Documents attached to this email**

1. C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Ave.docx

**e-Builder Technical Support**

phone: 1-888-288-5717 fax: 1-888-576-9322  
support@e-builder.net

**David M. Nernberg**

---

**From:** Matt Corace  
**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 4:38 PM  
**To:** Bill.Hartle@pjdick.com; ERSKINE  
**Subject:** FW: [EXT] C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Avenue Final Approval Letter  
**Attachments:** Washington Pl and Bedford Avenue Final Approval.docx

Good Afternoon – wanted to share attached for your reference.

**Matthew Corace**



1000 N. West Street, Suite 850  
WILMINGTON, DE 19801  
W 302.691.2126  
C 302.383.9005  
F 302.691.2099

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---

**From:** Wendy Dean <bounces@e-builder.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 23, 2021 10:32 AM  
**To:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>  
**Subject:** [EXT] C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Avenue Final Approval Letter

**Developer Tap in Permits**

---

From	Wendy Dean
To	<a href="mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com">mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com</a> ;
CC	

C-2060 Washington Pl and Bedford Ave. Fee Sheet to follow

**Documents attached to this email**

1. Washington Pl and Bedford Avenue Final Approval.docx

**e-Builder Technical Support**

phone: 1-888-288-5717 fax: 1-888-576-9322  
support@e-builder.net

**David M. Nernberg**

---

**From:** Matt Corace  
**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 5:05 PM  
**To:** Olivia Grunseich  
**Subject:** FW: [EXT] FW: EXTERNAL: C-2060 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue Fee Sheet and Final Approval Letter

FYI – we have to talk tomorrow on next steps with getting this check in in hands of PWSA ASAP. HIGH PRIORITY!

Until then,

**Matthew Corace**



1000 N. West Street, Suite 850  
WILMINGTON, DE 19801  
W 302.691.2126  
C 302.383.9005  
F 302.691.2099

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---

**From:** Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 5:01 PM  
**To:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>  
**Subject:** [EXT] FW: EXTERNAL: C-2060 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue Fee Sheet and Final Approval Letter

Drawings/permits not issued until fees are paid.

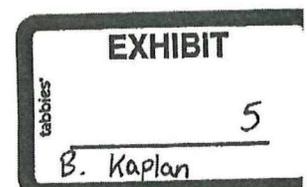
---

**From:** Wendy Dean <WDean@pgh2o.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 4:50 PM  
**To:** Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: C-2060 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue Fee Sheet and Final Approval Letter

Toby,

When fees are paid approved drawings and permits will be emailed.

19  
5



OfficePartners\_000044



Wendy Dean  
Engineering Technician II  
Office: 412.255.8800  
Ext: 8030

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

<https://pgh2o.com>



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---

**From:** Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 3:26 PM  
**To:** Wendy Dean <[WDean@pgh2o.com](mailto:WDean@pgh2o.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: C-2060 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue Fee Sheet and Final Approval Letter

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the authority. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thanks Wendy. Are there drawings with a permit number or stamp that will follow this approval letter?

Toby

---

**From:** Wendy Dean <[WDean@pgh2o.com](mailto:WDean@pgh2o.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 12:32 PM  
**To:** Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: C-2060 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue Fee Sheet and Final Approval Letter

Good Afternoon,

Please see attached Final Approval Letter and Fee Sheet.



Wendy Dean  
Engineering Technician II  
Office: 412.255.8800  
Ext: 8030

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

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---

**From:** Shannon Connell <[SConnell@pgh2o.com](mailto:SConnell@pgh2o.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 12:12 PM

**To:** Wendy Dean <[WDean@pgh2o.com](mailto:WDean@pgh2o.com)>

**Subject:** FW: EXTERNAL: RE: [External] REVISED Preliminary Determination on the Need for Sewage Planning - FNB Financial Center at Washington Place and Bedford Avenue

Hi Wendy!

I hope you had a good time over the holidays! I noticed that you uploaded the approval letter and tap-in fee sheet for 20014.72 Washington Pl and Bedford Avenue to the e-builder folder on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Can you please forward that email to Toby Partridge ([TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)) so he can be looped in?

Have a Happy New Year!

Shannon



Shannon Connell  
Engineer III  
Ext: 5523

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

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---

**From:** Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 12:05 PM

**To:** Shannon Connell <[SConnell@pgh2o.com](mailto:SConnell@pgh2o.com)>

**Cc:** [Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net](mailto:Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net); Robert Herring, PE, PMP <[RHerring@pgh2o.com](mailto:RHerring@pgh2o.com)>

**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: RE: [External] REVISED Preliminary Determination on the Need for Sewage Planning - FNB Financial Center at Washington Place and Bedford Avenue

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Shannon,

Sorry for bugging you again...but know that your help through this has been greatly appreciated!

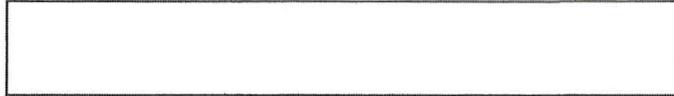
Realizing a lot of people were off for the last week or so, any idea when we will hear from the Permits Department?

Also, when will we hear about the final tap fee amount? And when is it due? It will take our client a little bit of time to process the withdrawal/check for the tap fees.

Thanks,

Toby

**Toby Partridge** | Technical Manager - Civil and Environmental  
100 Airside Drive, Airside Business Park | Moon Township, PA 15108 | [O] 412-375-3186  
[tpartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:tpartridge@mbakerintl.com) | [www.mbakerial.com](http://www.mbakerial.com)



---

**From:** Shannon Connell <[SConnell@pgh2o.com](mailto:SConnell@pgh2o.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 21, 2021 8:44 AM

**To:** Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>; Robert Herring, PE, PMP <[RHerring@pgh2o.com](mailto:RHerring@pgh2o.com)>

**Cc:** Julie Ascioffa <[jascioffa@pgh2o.com](mailto:jascioffa@pgh2o.com)>; Boris Kaplan <[bkaplan@bpgroup.net](mailto:bkaplan@bpgroup.net)>; Craig Dunham <[dunham@dunhamregroup.com](mailto:dunham@dunhamregroup.com)>; [Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net](mailto:Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net)

**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: RE: [External] REVISED Preliminary Determination on the Need for Sewage Planning - FNB Financial Center at Washington Place and Bedford Avenue

Toby,

I sent the signed Tap-in Plans for final processing yesterday. You should be hearing from our Permits Department shortly.

Thanks,

Shannon



Shannon Connell  
Engineer III  
Ext: 5523

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222



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---

**From:** Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 21, 2021 8:42 AM  
**To:** Robert Herring, PE, PMP <RHerring@pgh2o.com>  
**Cc:** Julie Ascioffa <jascioffa@pgh2o.com>; Shannon Connell <SConnell@pgh2o.com>; Boris Kaplan <bkaplan@bpggroup.net>; Craig Dunham <dunham@dunhamregroup.com>; Barry King, PE, PMP <BKing@pgh2o.com>; Kate Mechler, PE <KMechler@pgh2o.com>;  
[Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net](mailto:Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net)  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: RE: [External] REVISED Preliminary Determination on the Need for Sewage Planning - FNB Financial Center at Washington Place and Bedford Avenue

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Rob,  
Do you now have what you need to move the development permit for the water and sewer taps forward to approval? If so, any chance you have a timeline for when we might have the signed drawings?

Thanks,  
Toby

---

**From:** Flanagan, Thomas <thflanagan@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 21, 2021 7:36 AM  
**To:** Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>; Robert Herring, PE, PMP <RHerring@pgh2o.com>  
**Cc:** Julie Ascioffa <jascioffa@pgh2o.com>; Shannon Connell <SConnell@pgh2o.com>; Boris Kaplan <bkaplan@bpggroup.net>; Craig Dunham <dunham@dunhamregroup.com>; [howard.wein@bipc.com](mailto:howard.wein@bipc.com); Barry King, PE, PMP <BKing@pgh2o.com>; Kate Mechler, PE <KMechler@pgh2o.com>;  
[Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net](mailto:Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net)  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: RE: [External] REVISED Preliminary Determination on the Need for Sewage Planning - FNB Financial Center at Washington Place and Bedford Avenue

The tract is the entire site. The flow (roughly 839 gpd) was approved for the entire site and since this is the first development for the entire site, in order to move this project forward, the Department is not going to recognized that the lot has been subdivided until an additional lot is created at which time the applicant should identify the lot that was created for the FNB Financial Center. If the PWSA wants to maintain the flow for each block this decision should not affect that consideration.

---

**From:** Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 20, 2021 3:15 PM  
**To:** Flanagan, Thomas <thflanagan@pa.gov>; Robert Herring, PE, PMP <RHerring@pgh2o.com>  
**Cc:** Julie Ascioffa <jascioffa@pgh2o.com>; Shannon Connell <SConnell@pgh2o.com>; Boris Kaplan <bkaplan@bpggroup.net>; Craig Dunham <dunham@dunhamregroup.com>; [howard.wein@bipc.com](mailto:howard.wein@bipc.com); Barry King, PE,

PMP <[BKing@pgh2o.com](mailto:BKing@pgh2o.com)>; Kate Mechler, PE <[KMechler@pgh2o.com](mailto:KMechler@pgh2o.com)>;  
[Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net](mailto:Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net)  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: RE: [External] REVISED Preliminary Determination on the Need for Sewage Planning - FNB Financial Center at Washington Place and Bedford Avenue

Tom and Rob,

To confirm, the email below is in reference to the development of the G Block only. The tract referenced would be the G Block, right? Thus, the original flows assigned to the G Block (roughly 184k gpd) will now be assigned to this project. Not the flows for the entire Lower Hill development (roughly 839k gpd). The remainder of the 839k gpd will remain with the blocks as shown in the original Planning Module, correct?

I wanted to confirm that I understood correctly.

Thanks,  
Toby

**From:** Flanagan, Thomas <[thflanagan@pa.gov](mailto:thflanagan@pa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 20, 2021 2:39 PM  
**To:** Robert Herring, PE, PMP <[RHerring@pgh2o.com](mailto:RHerring@pgh2o.com)>  
**Cc:** Julie Ascioffa <[jascioffa@pgh2o.com](mailto:jascioffa@pgh2o.com)>; Shannon Connell <[SConnell@pgh2o.com](mailto:SConnell@pgh2o.com)>; Boris Kaplan <[bkaplan@bpgroup.net](mailto:bkaplan@bpgroup.net)>; Craig Dunham <[dunham@dunhamregroup.com](mailto:dunham@dunhamregroup.com)>; [howard.wein@bipc.com](mailto:howard.wein@bipc.com); Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>; Barry King, PE, PMP <[BKing@pgh2o.com](mailto:BKing@pgh2o.com)>; Kate Mechler, PE <[KMechler@pgh2o.com](mailto:KMechler@pgh2o.com)>;  
[Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net](mailto:Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net)  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: RE: [External] REVISED Preliminary Determination on the Need for Sewage Planning - FNB Financial Center at Washington Place and Bedford Avenue

Based on the submitted information and the discussions with the developer, the Department has determined that this development does not require sewage planning. This is based on the fact that this is the initial development of the entire tract. Any future development on any portion of the entire tract will require sewage planning.

**From:** Robert Herring, PE, PMP <[RHerring@pgh2o.com](mailto:RHerring@pgh2o.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 17, 2021 4:06 PM  
**To:** Flanagan, Thomas <[thflanagan@pa.gov](mailto:thflanagan@pa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Julie Ascioffa <[jascioffa@pgh2o.com](mailto:jascioffa@pgh2o.com)>; Shannon Connell <[SConnell@pgh2o.com](mailto:SConnell@pgh2o.com)>; Boris Kaplan <[bkaplan@bpgroup.net](mailto:bkaplan@bpgroup.net)>; Craig Dunham <[dunham@dunhamregroup.com](mailto:dunham@dunhamregroup.com)>; [howard.wein@bipc.com](mailto:howard.wein@bipc.com); Partridge, Toby <[tpartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:tpartridge@mbakerintl.com)>; Barry King, PE, PMP <[BKing@pgh2o.com](mailto:BKing@pgh2o.com)>; Kate Mechler, PE <[KMechler@pgh2o.com](mailto:KMechler@pgh2o.com)>;  
[Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net](mailto:Developer Tap in Pe.20014.72 Washington Place and Bedford Avenue@docs.e-builder.net)  
**Subject:** [External] REVISED Preliminary Determination on the Need for Sewage Planning - FNB Financial Center at Washington Place and Bedford Avenue

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Hi Tom,

Per an email from the development team for the proposed First National Bank Tower at the intersection of Washington Place and Bedford Avenue, we understand the following:

- There was a meeting earlier today to discuss the issue of sewage planning for the proposed development.

- The development team presented an option to deduct flows from a master planning module, however, the DEP wasn't comfortable with the idea since the blocks have not yet been subdivided.
- In an effort to minimize delays, both parties were agreeable to designating 100% of the Block G flows (175,000 gal) on the existing planning module to the subdivided lot for the FNB Financial Center (29,650 gpd), conditioned upon the PWSA not taking any issue.

Based on the foregoing, please be advised that the PWSA takes no exception to designating the Block G flows entirely to the First National Bank Financial Tower. We have enclosed for your use the revised Preliminary Determination on the Need for Sewage Planning. The revision mainly consisted of removing attachments which referenced the deduction of flows from the overall planning module. Furthermore, we understand that future developments within Block G shall require a separate planning module.

Should you have any questions, or if you feel that we have misunderstood the results of your meeting with the development team, please do not hesitate to contact us directly.

Thanks,



Robert Herring, PE, PMP  
Project Manager  
Office: 412.255.8800  
Ext: 5532

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

<https://pgh2o.com>



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David M. Nernberg

---

**From:** Wesley Schwandt  
**Sent:** Friday, January 28, 2022 8:51 AM  
**To:** Partridge, Toby; Boris Kaplan; Savich, Steven; Matt Corace; Craig Dunham  
**Cc:** Bomani Howze  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: FW: [EXT] FW: PWSA

We don't have the G4 program confirmed at this time. We need to address the G4 piece after

## H. WESLEY SCHWANDT

PRESIDENT



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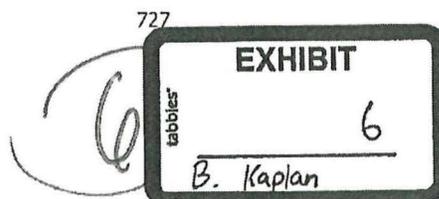
**From:** Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 27, 2022 5:36 PM  
**To:** Boris Kaplan <bkaplan@bpggroup.net>; Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>; Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>; Craig Dunham <dunham@dunhamregroup.com>  
**Cc:** Wesley Schwandt <wschwandt@bpgsconstruction.com>; Bomani Howze <bhowze@bpggroup.net>  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: FW: [EXT] FW: PWSA

Adding to Steve's comments for #2, we may have justification for splitting the tap in plans based on the flow allocations. I'll try to keep this at 10,000 feet, but right now the tap in plans show a combined flow rate that includes both G1 and G4. Based on our conversations with PADEP, we may want to split out the flow rate for the two parcels. I also am not sure what the implications would be for developing G4 because we would need to sort out the planning module issue. This approach might allow us to get the building permit now and then address G4 after. I'm not sure if this just muddies the water more or not, but it is a thought.

---

**From:** Boris Kaplan <bkaplan@bpggroup.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 27, 2022 5:05 PM  
**To:** Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>; Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>; Craig Dunham <dunham@dunhamregroup.com>; Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>  
**Cc:** Wesley Schwandt <wschwandt@bpgsconstruction.com>; Bomani Howze <bhowze@bpggroup.net>  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: FW: [EXT] FW: PWSA

Hearing no further objections, we're on track to break apart the tap in plan into G1 and G4 components. As for execution:



OfficePartners\_000752

- How quickly can we prep the updated submissions?
- Should someone call Julie Ascioia to let her know how we are moving forward?



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Boris Kaplan  
Senior Vice President

The Buccini/Pollin Group  
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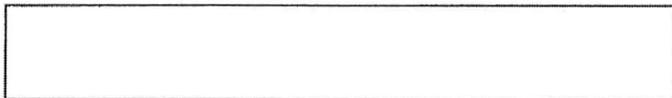



---

**From:** Savich, Steven <[ssavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 27, 2022 4:31 PM  
**To:** Boris Kaplan <[bkaplan@bpgroup.net](mailto:bkaplan@bpgroup.net)>; Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>; Craig Dunham <[dunham@dunhamregroup.com](mailto:dunham@dunhamregroup.com)>; Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>  
**Cc:** Wesley Schwandt <[wschwandt@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:wschwandt@bpgsconstruction.com)>; Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpgroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpgroup.net)>  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: FW: [EXT] FW: PWSA

- 1) splitting the application into G1 and G4 components won't have an unintended ripple impact on completed PWSA agreements, bonds, etc? If those supporting documents have to change as well, we'd likely be facing a more protracted delay than the 15 days review process. The bonds and Developer Agreement are for public facilities being transferred to PWSA and not for any of the taps ... so no will not.
- 2) Is there a different plan update that we should consider instead of splitting apart the G1 and G4 parcels? Nothing else really needs to change – Toby any thoughts?
- 3) Can we use the PWSA notice from December and other approvals to keep advancing the work in the field for another couple of weeks? My opinion, I think we still advance with Allegheny Plumbing with that letter to get the initial review and inspection schedule set with a promise of providing the balance of the information once received by PWSA.

**Steven Savich** | Vice President, Practice Executive - LD&I  
 100 Airside Drive, Airside Business Park | Moon Township, PA 15108 | [O] 412-269-6467 | [M] 330-550-4579  
[ssavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com) | [www.mbakerintl.com](http://www.mbakerintl.com)




---

**From:** Boris Kaplan <[bkaplan@bpgroup.net](mailto:bkaplan@bpgroup.net)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 27, 2022 10:41 AM  
**To:** Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>; Craig Dunham <[dunham@dunhamregroup.com](mailto:dunham@dunhamregroup.com)>; Savich, Steven <[ssavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com)>; Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>  
**Cc:** Wesley Schwandt <[wschwandt@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:wschwandt@bpgsconstruction.com)>; Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpgroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpgroup.net)>  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: FW: [EXT] FW: PWSA  
**Importance:** High

Good morning. After the OAC yesterday, we discussed our path forward with PWSA. We said that we would notify PWSA staff and Director Pickering of our intent to:

- 1) Withdraw the current tap-in fee application
- 2) Submit revised applications and tap plans that separate parcels G1 and G4
- 3) Request that both applications receive the 15-day expedited review and pay the \$1300 fee per application for expedited review

Before we send a follow up communication to PWSA, can we quickly confirm that

- 1) splitting the application into G1 and G4 components won't have an unintended ripple impact on completed PWSA agreements, bonds, etc? If those supporting documents have to change as well, we'd likely be facing a more protracted delay than the 15 days review process.
- 2) Is there a different plan update that we should consider instead of splitting apart the G1 and G4 parcels?
- 3) Can we use the PWSA notice from December and other approvals to keep advancing the work in the field for another couple of weeks?

Thanks,  
Boris



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Senior Vice President

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**From:** Boris Kaplan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 26, 2022 1:30 PM  
**To:** Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>; Wesley Schwandt <[wschwandt@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:wschwandt@bpgsconstruction.com)>; Chris Buccini <[CBuccini@bpggroup.net](mailto:CBuccini@bpggroup.net)>  
**Cc:** Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpggroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpggroup.net)>; Craig Dunham <[dunham@dunhamregroup.com](mailto:dunham@dunhamregroup.com)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXT] FW: PWSA

Bomani and I just heard from Kevin that his outreach to PWSA has not been successful to get the new fee structure applied. Do we have sufficient approvals of trade permits and work in field to work with Baker on an amendment to the plan that would be eligible for approval under the new structure? I heard at OAC that we do not have flexibility to throw this back into PWSA review. Can you confirm that we're going with higher fees?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Kevin Acklin <[kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com](mailto:kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com)>  
**Date:** January 26, 2022 at 1:11:06 PM EST  
**To:** Boris Kaplan <[bkaplan@bpggroup.net](mailto:bkaplan@bpggroup.net)>, "Bomani Howze ([bhowze@olmecdevelopment.com](mailto:bhowze@olmecdevelopment.com))" <[bhowze@olmecdevelopment.com](mailto:bhowze@olmecdevelopment.com)>  
**Cc:** Grant Gittlen <[ggittlen@pittsburghpenguins.com](mailto:ggittlen@pittsburghpenguins.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXT] FW: PWSA

I wish I had better news. They are bound by the PUC regulations and don't have any flexibility

**From:** Will Pickering <[WPickering@pgh2o.com](mailto:WPickering@pgh2o.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 26, 2022 12:59 PM  
**To:** Kevin Acklin <[kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com](mailto:kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: PWSA

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Hi Kevin –

It's always good to hear from you! I researched this issue with our team, and I believe we're on solid ground applying the tap fees. PWSA officially approved the tap plan in late December when our previous PUC-approved fee structure was applicable. The confusion seems to be that we do not "issue" the permit until the developer pays the fee. There is no more analysis required on our end, and we made an effort to expedite our review at the developer's request late last year.

Let me know if you need anything else, and I really appreciate your support. As you know, the fee revenue will undoubtedly be put to good use as we try to rebuild our water and sewer system.

Best,

Will



Will Pickering  
Chief Executive Officer  
Office: 412.255.2099  
Cell: 412.657.4031

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

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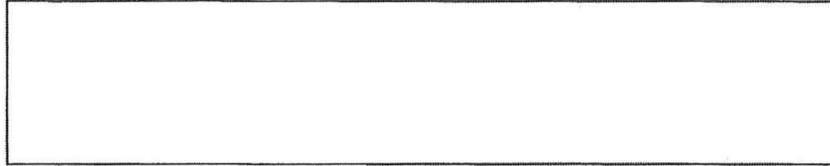


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**Kevin Acklin**

Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel  
Pittsburgh Penguins  
[kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com](mailto:kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com)

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**David M. Nernberg**

---

**From:** Bomani Howze  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 8:41 PM  
**To:** Boris Kaplan; Kevin Acklin; Grant Gittlen  
**Cc:** Matt Corace; Craig Dunham  
**Subject:** Re: [EXT] RE: PWSA Tap In / Permit

I talked with a couple of developers today.  
One has been given his approval and the new tap-in fee.  
The other has two projects and received two different rates; the new rate for \$25k and the other for \$300k.  
This project is also considerably smaller than ours but not far behind in fees.

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**From:** Boris Kaplan <bkaplan@bpgroup.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 4:49:01 PM  
**To:** Kevin Acklin <kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com>; Bomani Howze <bhowze@bpgroup.net>; Grant Gittlen <ggittlen@pittsburghpenguins.com>  
**Cc:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>; Craig Dunham <dunham@dunhamregroup.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] RE: PWSA Tap In / Permit  
Every project that is getting a PWSA permit after 1/12 is taking advantage of significantly reduce tap-in fees. We're not seeking a waiver – just want FNB Financial Center to be subject to the new fee structure.



Boris Kaplan  
Senior Vice President  
The Buccini/Pollin Group  
M 610-202-8606  
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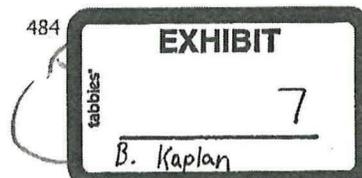
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**From:** Kevin Acklin <kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 4:46 PM  
**To:** Boris Kaplan <bkaplan@bpgroup.net>; Bomani Howze <bhowze@bpgroup.net>; Grant Gittlen <ggittlen@pittsburghpenguins.com>  
**Cc:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>; Craig Dunham <dunham@dunhamregroup.com>  
**Subject:** [EXT] RE: PWSA Tap In / Permit  
Thanks Boris. I know the PWSA Board previously had changed policies against waiving tap-in fees. Do we know of any recent projects that received the treatment we are requesting?

**From:** Boris Kaplan <bkaplan@bpgroup.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 1:26 PM  
**To:** Bomani Howze <bhowze@bpgroup.net>; Kevin Acklin <kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com>; Grant Gittlen <ggittlen@pittsburghpenguins.com>  
**Cc:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>; Craig Dunham <dunham@dunhamregroup.com>  
**Subject:** RE: PWSA Tap In / Permit

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Kevin, Grant,



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If you have a relationship with Dir. Will Pickering, who has been serving in his capacity as Director since May 2020 (previously the Deputy Director there), it would be very helpful to have you join a proposed a call. We were hoping to have Chief Wheatley join a call with PWSA leadership, but he has not volunteered to do so. We are also exploring an alternative (a "Hail Mary") whereby we have Baker make an amendment to the previously submitted tap-in plans so that there's no ambiguity that the basis of the permit was reviewed after the January 12 date for the new fee structure.

Thanks,  
Boris



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Boris Kaplan  
Senior Vice President  
The Buccini/Pollin Group  
M 610-202-8606  
[www.bpggroup.net](http://www.bpggroup.net)

---

**From:** Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpggroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpggroup.net)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 11:11 AM  
**To:** Boris Kaplan <[bkaplan@bpggroup.net](mailto:bkaplan@bpggroup.net)>; [kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com](mailto:kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com); Grant Gittlen <[ggittlen@pittsburghpenguins.com](mailto:ggittlen@pittsburghpenguins.com)>  
**Cc:** Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>; Craig Dunham <[dunham@dunhamregroup.com](mailto:dunham@dunhamregroup.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: PWSA Tap In / Permit

Update...This morning I reached out directly by way of an introduction to Dir. Pickering to request a meeting for Matt and I to discuss the permits and tap-in fees matter.  
Waiting to hear back from the Director.

---

**From:** Boris Kaplan <[bkaplan@bpggroup.net](mailto:bkaplan@bpggroup.net)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 11:00 AM  
**To:** [kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com](mailto:kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com); Grant Gittlen <[ggittlen@pittsburghpenguins.com](mailto:ggittlen@pittsburghpenguins.com)>  
**Cc:** Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpggroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpggroup.net)>; Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>; Craig Dunham <[dunham@dunhamregroup.com](mailto:dunham@dunhamregroup.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: PWSA Tap In / Permit

Kevin,  
I'm following up on Matt's email from yesterday. Please let me know if you have any questions about PWSA's new fee structure that we need to apply to our project despite PWSA's initial hesitation to do so. As it stands now, our project is in line to be charged with high upfront AND recurring fees, which is not equitable since our permit hasn't even been issued. Furthermore, DEP's reluctance to accept the recorded planning module will add significant approval and expense burdens to each phase of development on the Lower Hill. The new structure went into effect last week (1/12) and we are hoping to secure the tap-in permit next week for the FNB Financial Center.  
Bomani and I would like to discuss possible outreach efforts with you this afternoon. Let us know if you have 10 minutes after 3.30.

Thanks,  
Boris



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Boris Kaplan  
Senior Vice President  
The Buccini/Pollin Group  
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**From:** Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 18, 2022 5:46 PM

**To:** Craig Dunham <[dunham@dunhamregroup.com](mailto:dunham@dunhamregroup.com)>; Kevin Acklin <[kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com](mailto:kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com)>; gGittlen <[ggittlen@pittsburghpenguins.com](mailto:ggittlen@pittsburghpenguins.com)>

**Cc:** Boris Kaplan <[bkaplan@bpggroup.net](mailto:bkaplan@bpggroup.net)>; Wesley Schwandt <[wschwandt@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:wschwandt@bpgsconstruction.com)>; Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpggroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpggroup.net)>

**Subject:** PWSA Tap In / Permit

Good Afternoon –

Thank you again for your past efforts to address approvals/permitting roadblocks. We are currently approaching the final City approvals for the FNB Financial Center – DOMI, Zoning, PLI & PWSA. An issue has recently developed with PWSA that we are seeking your guidance to address and hopefully resolve.

The project has an opportunity to save in excess of \$400k in projected Water & Sewer Tap In Permit fees based on a PWSA Rate/Tariff restructuring that went into effect on January 12. Up until now permit fees were based on Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDU's) and projected Gallons per day. There is an analysis the Authority performs based on square footage, Building Type, Use, etc. to determine the values. Once determined the Developer is expected to pay prior to the release of the Permit & Stamped Drawings. The new system in place does not utilize EDU's for the equation, just a flat review fee, some meter, valves and processing fees thus significantly reducing the cost. PWSA has restructured these upfront fees with the expectation of significant increases in usage charges. As it stands now, our project is in line to be charged with high upfront AND recurring fees, which is not equitable since our permit hasn't even been issued. We received a letter from PWSA on 12/23 (attached) indicating that our permit and stamped drawings would be issued upon receipt of payment. When the change in fee structure was realized, we requested that the new schedule apply to our permit to which they initially rejected due to the letter being issued last month. When asked about how the Authority plans to recoup these significant fees we were informed that the usage rates were going to be increased – so should the new permit fee schedule not get recognized we would essentially be hit on the back end as well. Our discussion with PWSA ended last week with Julie Ascioffa, the Industry Relations manager understanding our plea but indicating that only way we could receive approval under the new rules would be acceptance from the Director and potentially support from the Mayor's office.

Due to the substantial burden these fees place on the project, the fact that the Permit has not been issued and that the building will be held to the higher usage rates it is our position that we have a case with merit to review with the Director. If in agreement I would appreciate guidance on the approach/strategy we should utilize to see if we can convince the city to hold our permit values to the current schedule which went in effect last week.

This PWSA approval is critical and time-sensitive, as several additional permits we are currently seeking directly tie to a resolution. Please reach out with any questions.

**Matthew Corace**



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C 302.383.9005

F 302.691.2099

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**Kevin Acklin**

Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel

Pittsburgh Penguins

[kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com](mailto:kacklin@pittsburghpenguins.com)

Office: 412-255-1921 | Fax: 412-255-1982 | Cell: 412-303-1295



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## David M. Nernberg

---

**From:** Matt Corace  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:43 PM  
**To:** Savich, Steven; Partridge, Toby  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: RE: [EXT] RE: Possible Good News

Please & Thank you!

### Matthew Corace



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---

**From:** Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:41 PM  
**To:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>; Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: RE: [EXT] RE: Possible Good News

I take this to mean that the EDU based fee for sewer will remain and possibly increase some. The fees for taps (by size) of waterlines and the EDU based water fees will go away. I expect the meter costs to remain as well. I have only gotten some partial information on this but will look to confirm with Julie at PWSA tomorrow ...

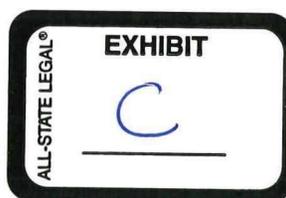
**Steven Savich** | Vice President, Practice Executive - LD&I  
100 Airside Drive, Airside Business Park | Moon Township, PA 15108 | [O] 412-269-6467 | [M] 330-550-4579  
[ssavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com) | [www.mbakerintl.com](http://www.mbakerintl.com)

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**From:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:38 PM

63



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**To:** Savich, Steven <[SSavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com)>; Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: RE: [EXT] RE: Possible Good News

Agreed.. When we write tap in fees what value are we talking about?

**Matthew Corace**



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---

**From:** Savich, Steven <[SSavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:24 PM  
**To:** Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>; Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXT] RE: Possible Good News

Possibly this is where we can use some of the political capital to sway the consideration of what is approved ...

**Steven Savich** | Vice President, Practice Executive - LD&I  
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[ssavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com) | [www.mbakerintl.com](http://www.mbakerintl.com)



---

**From:** Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:20 PM  
**To:** Savich, Steven <[SSavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com)>; [mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)  
**Subject:** RE: Possible Good News

We received approval of the tap-in plans on 12/23, however the letter says that the permit is not considered issued until the permit fees are paid. I imagine there will be some nuance to the language when announced, but it is worth a question.

---

**From:** Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:12 PM  
**To:** mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com  
**Cc:** Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>  
**Subject:** Possible Good News

FYI.

I just had got a notice from one of my staff who met with PWSA on a separate project ... they are cancelling all tap in fees for all projects effective Jan 1st. If a project was previously issued a permit then it still has to pay the fee. Was the PWSA permit issued after January 1?

There will be a public announcement within a week or two, so maybe this is an opportunity to at least ask the question ...

However, there will be an updated sewage fee and application fee which will offset some of the savings, but overall it will not be nearly as much as the current tap in fees.

**Steven Savich** | Vice President, Practice Executive - LD&I  
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[ssavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com) | [www.mbakerial.com](http://www.mbakerial.com) [f](#) [t](#) [@](#) [in](#) [v](#)

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## David M. Nernberg

---

**From:** Matt Corace  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 3:08 PM  
**To:** Boris Kaplan  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Re: PWSA tap-in fees

I am sorry Boris, don't know what more to write Boris..

- We want to pick up our PWSA approved drawings & permit.
- We want our payment to align with current fee structure.
  - Due to the timing/date of Permit Issuance
  - Since the building will be held to higher usage rates downstream we will feel the burden at both ends.
- This PWSA approval is critical and time-sensitive, as several additional permits we are currently seeking directly tie to a resolution.

### Matthew Corace



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---

**From:** Boris Kaplan <bkaplan@bpgroup.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 12:32 PM  
**To:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Re: PWSA tap-in fees

Need a high level summary that explains why this is important: "I'm reaching out to see if you might be able to lead me in the right direction regarding PWSA's new tap-in fees. I believe the issue can be resolved if we're able to get a meeting with the Dir. Will Pickering." It's 2-3 sentences pulled from what you sent Kevin and underscores that we're not seeking any favorable treatment of consideration – just for the permit date (yet to be determined) to trigger the fee structure that went into effect 1/12/22.

Kevin said that he will reach out Director Pickering before the larger call given his relationship.

538



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We should get feedback from Steve on any reasonable/plan modifications that can also help supersede the correspondence from late December.



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Senior Vice President

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**From:** Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 11:34 AM

**To:** Boris Kaplan <[bkaplan@bpggroup.net](mailto:bkaplan@bpggroup.net)>

**Subject:** FW: [EXT] Re: PWSA tap-in fees

Who should respond to this?

**Matthew Corace**



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F 302.691.2099

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---

**From:** Will Pickering <[WPickering@pgh2o.com](mailto:WPickering@pgh2o.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 11:32 AM

**To:** Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpggroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpggroup.net)>

**Cc:** Julie Ascioffa <[jascioffa@pgh2o.com](mailto:jascioffa@pgh2o.com)>; Jennifer Presutti <[JPresutti@pgh2o.com](mailto:JPresutti@pgh2o.com)>; Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>

**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Re: PWSA tap-in fees

Hi Diamonte – Thank you for making the connection. I've moved you and David to the bcc on this thread for now while we work on logistics.

Mr. Howze – Can you please give me a better sense of the issues you'd like to discuss? I want to make sure the appropriate members of the PWSA team are included in the conversation.

Best,

Will



Will Pickering  
Chief Executive Officer  
Office: 412.255.2099  
Cell: 412.657.4031

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

<https://pgh2o.com>



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**From:** Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpggroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpggroup.net)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 9:53 AM  
**To:** Diamonte Walker <[dwalker@ura.org](mailto:dwalker@ura.org)>  
**Cc:** Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>; Will Pickering <[WPickering@pgh2o.com](mailto:WPickering@pgh2o.com)>; David Geiger <[dgeiger@ura.org](mailto:dgeiger@ura.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Re: PWSA tap-in fees

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Thanks much, Diamonte!

David, it is my pleasure to virtually meet.

Director Pickering,

I hope this email finds you well. Per the matter described below, I'd like to arrange a time for my colleague, Matt Corace, Senior Project Manager and I to meet with you to discuss challenges to obtaining approvals/permitting for the FNB Financial Center.

Can you have your admin help us find times to meet?

Thank you, kindly!

---

**From:** Diamonte Walker <[dwalker@ura.org](mailto:dwalker@ura.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 8:06 AM  
**To:** Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpggroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpggroup.net)>  
**Cc:** Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>; Will Pickering <[WPickering@pgh2o.com](mailto:WPickering@pgh2o.com)>; David Geiger <[dgeiger@ura.org](mailto:dgeiger@ura.org)>  
**Subject:** [EXT] Re: PWSA tap-in fees

Good Morning Bomani,

I'm not wholly familiar with PWSA tap in fee protocols but I have copied Director Pickering to this email for more direct communication with PWSA.

I've also copied David Geiger, the URA's Senior Advisor for visibility as he's quite adroit at helping to navigate these matters.

Director Pickering, Please see the inquiry below.

Best,

Diamonte

Dr. Diamonte Walker  
Deputy Executive Director  
Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh  
412 Blvd of the Allies, 9th Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
412.255.6610 OFFICE

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[twitter.com/urapgh](https://twitter.com/urapgh)

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**From:** Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpggroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpggroup.net)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 7:32 AM  
**To:** Diamonte Walker <[dwalker@ura.org](mailto:dwalker@ura.org)>  
**Cc:** Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>  
**Subject:** PWSA tap-in fees

Dep. Dir. Walker,  
I hope the New Year is off to a productive start and already treating you well.  
I'm reaching out to see if you might be able to lead me in the right direction regarding PWSA's new tap-in fees. I believe the issue can be resolved if we're able to get a meeting with the Dir. Will Pickering.  
Do you have a relationship with him or a high level staffer that can arrange a meeting?

Bomani M. Howze  
Vice President of Development

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## David M. Nernberg

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**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Re: PWSA tap-in fees

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- This PWSA approval is critical and time-sensitive, as several additional permits we are currently seeking directly tie to a resolution.

### Matthew Corace



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Who should respond to this?

**Matthew Corace**



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**From:** Will Pickering <[WPickering@pgh2o.com](mailto:WPickering@pgh2o.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 11:32 AM  
**To:** Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpggroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpggroup.net)>  
**Cc:** Julie Ascioffa <[jascioffa@pgh2o.com](mailto:jascioffa@pgh2o.com)>; Jennifer Presutti <[JPresutti@pgh2o.com](mailto:JPresutti@pgh2o.com)>; Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Re: PWSA tap-in fees

Hi Diamonte – Thank you for making the connection. I've moved you and David to the bcc on this thread for now while we work on logistics.

Mr. Howze – Can you please give me a better sense of the issues you'd like to discuss? I want to make sure the appropriate members of the PWSA team are included in the conversation.

Best,

Will



Will Pickering  
Chief Executive Officer  
Office: 412.255.2099  
Cell: 412.657.4031

Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority  
1200 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

<https://pgh2o.com>



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---

**From:** Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpggroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpggroup.net)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 9:53 AM  
**To:** Diamonte Walker <[dwalker@ura.org](mailto:dwalker@ura.org)>  
**Cc:** Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>; Will Pickering <[WPickering@pgh2o.com](mailto:WPickering@pgh2o.com)>; David Geiger <[dgeiger@ura.org](mailto:dgeiger@ura.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Re: PWSA tap-in fees

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Thanks much, Diamonte!

David, it is my pleasure to virtually meet.

Director Pickering,

I hope this email finds you well. Per the matter described below, I'd like to arrange a time for my colleague, Matt Corace, Senior Project Manager and I to meet with you to discuss challenges to obtaining approvals/permitting for the FNB Financial Center.

Can you have your admin help us find times to meet?

Thank you, kindly!

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**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 8:06 AM  
**To:** Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpggroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpggroup.net)>  
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**Subject:** [EXT] Re: PWSA tap-in fees

Good Morning Bomani,

I'm not wholly familiar with PWSA tap in fee protocols but I have copied Director Pickering to this email for more direct communication with PWSA.

I've also copied David Geiger, the URA's Senior Advisor for visibility as he's quite adroit at helping to navigate these matters.

Director Pickering, Please see the inquiry below.

Best,

Diamonte

Dr. Diamonte Walker  
Deputy Executive Director  
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412 Blvd of the Allies, 9th Floor  
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[ura.org](http://ura.org)

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Dep. Dir. Walker,  
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I'm reaching out to see if you might be able to lead me in the right direction regarding PWSA's new tap-in fees. I believe the issue can be resolved if we're able to get a meeting with the Dir. Will Pickering.  
Do you have a relationship with him or a high level staffer that can arrange a meeting?

Bomani M. Howze  
Vice President of Development

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## David M. Nernberg

---

**From:** Matt Corace  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 3:08 PM  
**To:** Boris Kaplan  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Re: PWSA tap-in fees

I am sorry Boris, don't know what more to write Boris..

- We want to pick up our PWSA approved drawings & permit.
- We want our payment to align with current fee structure.
  - Due to the timing/date of Permit Issuance
  - Since the building will be held to higher usage rates downstream we will feel the burden at both ends.
- This PWSA approval is critical and time-sensitive, as several additional permits we are currently seeking directly tie to a resolution.

### Matthew Corace



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C 302.383.9005  
F 302.691.2099

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**From:** Boris Kaplan <bkaplan@bpgroup.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 12:32 PM  
**To:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Re: PWSA tap-in fees

Need a high level summary that explains why this is important: "I'm reaching out to see if you might be able to lead me in the right direction regarding PWSA's new tap-in fees. I believe the issue can be resolved if we're able to get a meeting with the Dir. Will Pickering." It's 2-3 sentences pulled from what you sent Kevin and underscores that we're not seeking any favorable treatment of consideration – just for the permit date (yet to be determined) to trigger the fee structure that went into effect 1/12/22.

Kevin said that he will reach out Director Pickering before the larger call given his relationship.

We should get feedback from Steve on any reasonable/plan modifications that can also help supersede the correspondence from late December.



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Boris Kaplan  
Senior Vice President

The Buccini/Pollin Group  
M 610-202-8606

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---

**From:** Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 11:34 AM

**To:** Boris Kaplan <[bkaplan@bpgroup.net](mailto:bkaplan@bpgroup.net)>

**Subject:** FW: [EXT] Re: PWSA tap-in fees

Who should respond to this?

**Matthew Corace**



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**From:** Will Pickering <[WPickering@pgh2o.com](mailto:WPickering@pgh2o.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 11:32 AM

**To:** Bomani Howze <[bhowze@bpgroup.net](mailto:bhowze@bpgroup.net)>

**Cc:** Julie Ascioffa <[jascioffa@pgh2o.com](mailto:jascioffa@pgh2o.com)>; Jennifer Presutti <[JPresutti@pgh2o.com](mailto:JPresutti@pgh2o.com)>; Matt Corace <[mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)>

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## David M. Nernberg

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**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:49 PM  
**To:** Wesley Schwandt  
**Subject:** FW: EXTERNAL: RE: [EXT] RE: Possible Good News

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### Matthew Corace



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**From:** Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:41 PM  
**To:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>; Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>  
**Subject:** RE: EXTERNAL: RE: [EXT] RE: Possible Good News

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**Michael Baker**  
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---

**From:** Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:38 PM

66



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**To:** Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>; Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>  
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Agreed.. When we write tap in fees what value are we talking about?

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**Subject:** [EXT] RE: Possible Good News

Possibly this is where we can use some of the political capital to sway the consideration of what is approved ...

**Steven Savich** | Vice President, Practice Executive - LD&I  
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**From:** Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:24 PM  
**To:** Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>; Matt Corace <mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com>  
**Subject:** [EXT] RE: Possible Good News

Possibly this is where we can use some of the political capital to sway the consideration of what is approved ...

**Steven Savich** | Vice President, Practice Executive - LD&I  
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**From:** Partridge, Toby <TPartridge@mbakerintl.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:20 PM  
**To:** Savich, Steven <SSavich@mbakerintl.com>; [mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)  
**Subject:** RE: Possible Good News

We received approval of the tap-in plans on 12/23, however the letter says that the permit is not considered issued until the permit fees are paid. I imagine there will be some nuance to the language when announced, but it is worth a question.

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**From:** Savich, Steven <[SSavich@mbakerintl.com](mailto:ssavich@mbakerintl.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 4:12 PM  
**To:** [mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com](mailto:mcorace@bpgsconstruction.com)  
**Cc:** Partridge, Toby <[TPartridge@mbakerintl.com](mailto:TPartridge@mbakerintl.com)>  
**Subject:** Possible Good News

FYI.

I just had got a notice from one of my staff who met with PWSA on a separate project ... they are cancelling all tap in fees for all projects effective Jan 1st. If a project was previously issued a permit then it still has to pay the fee. Was the PWSA permit issued after January 1?

There will be a public announcement within a week or two, so maybe this is an opportunity to at least ask the question ...

However, there will be an updated sewage fee and application fee which will offset some of the savings, but overall it will not be nearly as much as the current tap in fees.

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing **RESPONDENT THE PITTSBURGH WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT** was served electronically via the Commission's electronic filing system, as well as by courtesy copy via electronic mail, this 26th day of May, 2023, upon the following:

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*/s/ Ashley L. Buck*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ashley L. Buck