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Senate of Pennsylvania

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October 25, 2023

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 2nd Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

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RE: Docket No. A-2021-3024058– Application of Pennsylvania-American Water Company to Acquire the Wastewater System Assets of the Borough of Brentwood

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

It has come to my attention that Pennsylvania American Water Company filed an application to acquire the wastewater assets of the Borough of Brentwood. As a State Senator of the 45th State Senatorial District since 2010, I write to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (the “Commission”) to express my support of this sale. My decision to support this sale is not a casual one, but instead, one from years of experience representing the interests of the members of this district. This acquisition will provide substantial affirmative public benefits to the acquired Borough customers, the existing Pennsylvania-American customers, and the public at large.

The Borough’s elected officials determined that the administrative and financial burden of operating the Borough’s wastewater collection and conveyance system rendered the Borough’s continued ownership no longer feasible. The Borough is currently bound to the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority’s federal Consent Decree in an effort to reduce the inflow and infiltration into the ALCOSAN sanitary sewer system. More specifically, the Consent Decree directs ALCOSAN to eliminate sanitary sewer overflows, reduce combined sewer overflows, provide enhanced control to sensitive areas, and meet water quality standards. With the vast majority of the System being nearly a century old, the acquisition by an industry expert like Pennsylvania American will not only provide the capital investment necessary to bring the System into compliance, but the expertise required to address the persistent environmental compliance issues.

Further, it is my understanding that all eight (8) Public Works employees employed by the Borough will remain so employed if the Commission approves this sale. In addition to overseeing sanitary sewer upkeep in Brentwood, these eight individual are tasked with preserving Brentwood’s entire infrastructure including, but not limited to, maintaining roadways, and the stormwater system, removing snow,

maintaining parks and swimming pools, controlling traffic, maintaining the Borough Stadium, maintaining four ballfields, maintaining all Borough facilities, assisting capital construction contractors, and ensuring all rights-of-way are clear of any obstruction. Thus, this sale will allow the Brentwood Public Works Department to reallocate time and resources to its numerous other duties.

Moreover, this sale will control the potential rate impact to Borough customers by placing the sewer collection rates under the regulation of the Commission to ensure that any future rate increases by Pennsylvania-American will be just and reasonable. Similarly, there will be no immediate rate impact as Pennsylvania-American has agreed via the Asset Purchase Agreement to adopt the current rates for Borough customers for at least two years following the sale of the System.

In conclusion, Pennsylvania American's acquisition of the near-century old System in Borough will provide substantial affirmative public benefits in the district that I represent in the Commonwealth. Thus, I respectfully submit that the Commission approve this proposed sale of Brentwood's System to Pennsylvania American in accordance with the policy encouraging the sale of locally-owned wastewater systems to well-organized public utilities and further the primary goal of the Commonwealth: the future health, safety, and welfare of its citizens.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this issue.

Sincerely,



Jim Brewster
State Senator
45th Senate District

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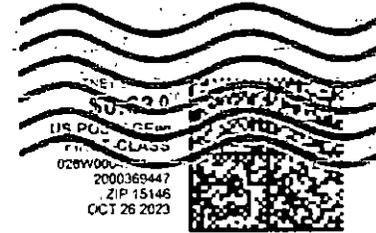


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