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File #: 203073

December 15, 2023

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, 2nd Floor  
P.O. Box 3265  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

**Re: Petition of Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. For Approval of its Third Long-Term  
Infrastructure Improvement Plan and Lead Service Line Replacement Program  
Docket No. P-2023-3043755**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Attached for filing please find the Responses of Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. ("Aqua") to the Data Requests, Set I, of the Bureau of Technical Utility Services in the above-captioned proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael W. Hassell

MWH/kl  
Attachment

cc: Certificate of Service

**PETITION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA, INC.**

**DOCKET NO. P-2023-3043755**

**BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

**SET I DATA REQUESTS**

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**TUS-I-1** Reference Exhibit A, Section 3: Schedule for Planned Repair and Replacement of Eligible Property

- a. Discuss in detail the general goals of the Third LTIP, including the priority of those goals and what measures, if any, the company plans to use to track progress, e.g., leak rates, main breaks per mile, etc.

**RESPONSE**

The Company's goals through the Third LTIP include replacement of aging distribution pipe and appurtenances, improved system reliability, replacement of customer owned lead service lines, and improved service to customers.

As shown in Table 14 of the Third LTIP, the Company continues to target its candidate pool of pipe to replace aged mains and mains made of certain materials that have increased break rates. See Aqua Third LTIP, Table 14. Replacement of these mains improves overall system reliability, reduces water loss, reduces purchased power and chemical expense, and reduces customer impacts through decreased outages due to main breaks.

The Company currently tracks its main breaks in its Southeastern Pennsylvania ("SEPA") and Greater Pennsylvania ("GPA") areas and reports main breaks in its Annual Asset Optimization Plans ("AAOP"). Similarly, the Company also provides non-revenue water ("NRW") information by SEPA and GPA. While both main breaks and NRW provide valuable data toward measurement of success, main breaks may be influenced by specific weather fluctuations during the year and NRW may be influenced by system requirements or changes in operations.

The Company also continues to monitor its water quality service orders in its systems. See Aqua Third LTIP, Figures 6 and 7. As the Company continues to replace aged mains, properly size mains, and provide adequate flow and pressure,

it has resulted in overall reduction of Taste and Odor and Discolored water complaints.

Additionally, the consistent availability of and increased fire flow throughout its systems through replacing aged mains or upsizing mains is a goal of the Company. The Company has continued to track flow rates at any hydrants that do not provide 500 gallons per minute at 20 pounds per square inch. The Company marks the hydrants until the hydrant can be relocated, eliminated, or incorporated into a project to improve fire flow to that hydrant.

Finally, the Company is working to achieve the replacement of all lead service lines, including galvanized service lines requiring replacement, throughout its system in compliance with the Commission's regulations and Environmental Protection Agency's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions.

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- TUS-I-2**      Reference Exhibit A, Section 4: Location of Eligible Property
- a. Provide a detailed list of all water systems in each Aqua operating district (GPA, SEPA), that are eligible to have infrastructure replaced in the Third LTIP.
  - b. Provide the specific eligible property to be replaced, by water system, as part of the Third LTIP.

**RESPONSE**

Please see TUS-I-2 Attachment 1.

Estimated Eligible Property by Operational Area						
Mains (Miles)	Division	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
	Central	5	6	7	6	6
	Northeast	8	4	3	2	2
	Southeast	70	68	59	56	56
	West	4	6	5	3	3
	Total	86	84	74	67	67
<b>Services (Units)</b>						
	Central	239	306	343	305	302
	Northeast	396	194	147	114	112
	Southeast	3,564	3,486	3,012	2,836	2,842
	West	187	298	272	162	161
	Total	4,386	4,284	3,774	3,417	3,417
<b>Valves (Units)</b>						
	Central	70	90	101	90	89
	Northeast	117	57	43	33	33
	Southeast	1,048	1,025	886	834	836
	West	55	88	80	48	47
	Total	1,290	1,260	1,110	1,005	1,005
<b>Hydrants (Units)</b>						
	Central	9	12	13	12	12
	Northeast	16	8	6	4	4
	Southeast	140	137	118	111	111
	West	7	12	11	6	6
	Total	172	168	148	134	134
<b>Meters (Units)</b>						
	Central	476	490	530	3,580	320
	Northeast	270	7,340	227	256	225
	Southeast	16,884	42,995	20,638	6,969	6,589
	West	4,385	2,275	335	370	285
	Total	22,015	53,100	21,730	11,175	7,419

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**TUS-I-3** Reference Exhibit A, Section 6: Projected Annual Expenditures and Measures to Ensure Cost-Effectiveness

- a. Specify what steps and programs will be utilized to ensure cost effectiveness throughout the term of the LTIP.

**RESPONSE**

The Company uses national contract pricing and bidding for the procurement of materials used in its DSIC program. These contracts include the procurement of pipe, services, hydrants, valves, cathodic protection, and meters at competitive prices. Contracts are generally awarded for two years and then evaluated and bid as necessary by the Company. Vendors are chosen to bid based on qualifications and pricing. National contracts allow the Company to utilize the purchasing power of the combined organization, and, therefore, pass these benefits and savings through to customers.

The Company uses Master Service Agreements (“MSA”) with engineering consultants to establish rates for a two-year period, thereby effectively planning and locking in rates for various DSIC projects.

Additionally, as stated in the Third LTIP, the Company continues to coordinate with municipalities and other utilities to save on paving costs whenever possible.

Finally, the Company often employs alternatives analysis in its project planning to determine if there is a more cost-effective way to perform a DSIC project, while taking into consideration operations and system reliability. The Company has also evaluated DSIC projects to reduce operational costs through consolidation of sources of supply.

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- TUS-I-4** Reference Exhibit A, Section 7: Acceleration Plan and Maintenance of Safe and Reliable Service
- a. Specify how the Third LTIP will help with system resiliency, reliability, and safety.

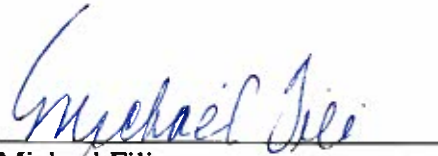
**RESPONSE**

As discussed in the Company's response to TUS-I-1, the Third LTIP will continue to reduce Aqua's candidate pool of pipe, which in turn will reduce main breaks, NRW, and water quality complaints throughout the Company's systems. Through the Company's main replacements, the Company increases the number of valves on an installed replacement main from what was present on the previous main. This improvement reduces the areas that need to be shut off for planned or unplanned outages, thereby reducing customer impact.

The Company continues to evaluate how it can improve safety for the system and its employees. The Company works cooperatively with local fire companies to discuss installation of additional fire hydrants where system characteristics allow, thereby providing additional fire flow and increasing community safety. The Company is evaluating vault locations to move vaults out of the middle of the roadway and increasing the size of the vault entrance to allow for safer and easier access. This improvement will allow Company employees to access vaults from the side of the road, reducing the extent of road closures and impacts to customers' daily lives.

## VERIFICATION

I, Michael Fili, Vice President, Capital Planning, Design & Construction of Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc., hereby state that the facts set forth in Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc.'s Responses to the Bureau of Technical Utility Services Data Requests Set 1 in the matter at Docket No. P-2023-3043755, 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).

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Fili". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Michael Fili  
Vice President, Capital Planning,  
Design & Construction  
Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc.

Dated: December 15, 2023