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December 19, 2023

***By Electronic Filing***

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

RE: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission v. Community Utilities of Pennsylvania Inc.; Docket Nos. R-2023-3042804 (Water) and R-2023-3042805 (Wastewater);  
**CONTINGENT, VOLUNTARY STATUTORY SUSPENSION PERIOD  
EXTENSION LETTER**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:<sup>1</sup>

Community Utilities of Pennsylvania Inc. (“CUPA”) is in receipt of the December 15, 2023, Letter from the Office of Consumer Advocate (“OCA”) addressed to the Commission, which requests the Commission “provide direction to the Presiding Officers and the parties that the August 1, 2024 Public Meeting date can be used for setting a procedural schedule in this matter.” CUPA does not oppose OCA’s request and takes no position on the various representations OCA makes in the Letter to support its request.<sup>2</sup>

CUPA understands that the Commission and its staff have a limited time frame to issue decisions in rate cases and the related strain on resources that can occur. Thus, to the extent the Commission considers OCA’s Letter request, CUPA is willing, on a limited and one time basis and contingent upon retroactive recovery of any foregone rate increase, to extend the suspension date to August 22, 2024, for rates to be effective August 23, 2023. This would provide the Commission the ability to utilize the August 1 Public Meeting date with an additional 15 business days for subsequent order drafting and review.

<sup>1</sup> This letter is being filed with the Secretary and served only upon all parties of record and Administrative Law Judges Haas and Arnold.

<sup>2</sup> CUPA’s letter seeks no relief from the Commission but is intended to assist the Commission should it consider OCA’s request by providing the Commission with an additional tool to manage the procedural schedule.

CUPA is only willing to extend the suspension period if the Commission also expressly orders that CUPA be allowed to recover the foregone rate increase from the original suspension date, August 9, 2024, through the new August 22, 2024 suspension date. This procedure and related recovery mechanism were utilized in CUPA's last base rate proceeding to extend the suspension period,<sup>3</sup> albeit pursuant to procedures that were modified during the COVID-19 pandemic which allowed the Chief Administrative Law Judge additional discretion in deciding upon procedural schedules.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions concerning this filing.

Respectfully,

*/s/ Whitney E. Snyder*

Whitney E. Snyder  
Thomas J. Sniscak  
Phillip D. Demanchick Jr.

*Counsel for  
Community Utilities of Pennsylvania Inc.*

WES/jld  
Enclosures

cc: Per Certificate of Service  
Administrative Law Judge Steven Haas (via electronic mail – [sthaas@pa.gov](mailto:sthaas@pa.gov))  
Administrative Law Judge Alfonso Arnold (via electronic mail – [alphonarno@pa.gov](mailto:alphonarno@pa.gov))  
Paul Diskin, Bureau of Technical Utility Services (via electronic mail – [pdiskin@pa.gov](mailto:pdiskin@pa.gov))  
Daniel Searfoorce (via electronic mail – [dsearfoorc@pa.gov](mailto:dsearfoorc@pa.gov))

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<sup>3</sup> *Pa. PUC v. Community Utilities of Pa Inc.*, Order Granting the Joint Petition for Extension of Procedural Schedule, Docket No. R-2021-3025206 (ALJ order entered Jul. 22, 2021) available at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/pcdocs/1712648.docx>

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing document upon the parties, listed below, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a party).

### BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

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/s/ Whitney E. Snyder  
Whitney E. Snyder  
Thomas J. Sniscak  
Phillip D. Demanchick Jr.

Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.