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May 29, 2024

Public Utility Commission  
Commissioners  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor North  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RCVD PUC SEC BUR  
JUN 3 2024 AM 11:45

Dear Commissioners,

It has come to my attention that many of my constituents recently received a Notice of Proposed Wastewater Rate Changes from Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc (Aqua). The proposed increase is a significant issue in the district I represent, especially in Limerick Township. Many of its residents have contacted my office already and wish to weigh in on the coming rate case. To ensure that their voices can be heard, I am asking for the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to schedule a public input hearing for this rate case in Limerick Township.

Aqua filed a request with the PUC on May 23, 2024, requesting a total overall rate increase of \$126.7 million per year. The company is estimating that, if approved, the typical wastewater bill for residential customers using 3,870 gallons a month would increase from \$77.92 to \$92.85 per month, an increase of slightly more than 19 percent.

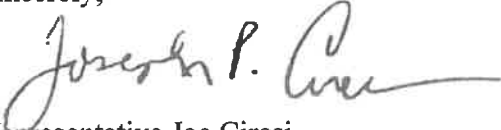
However, this rate increase proposal does not exist in isolation, but has the context of a previous rate increase that was approved by the PUC in May 2022 following the acquisition of the wastewater system by Aqua. The approved increase, which almost doubled the average residential sewer bill from its previously monthly average of \$35.36, is still fresh in the minds of Limerick Township residents. As their representative, and an Aqua wastewater customer in Limerick Township, I hear and share the concerns many of my constituents have about these significant rate increases, especially because of the burden they place on our residents living on fixed incomes.

In the previous rate case, hundreds of residents of Limerick Township submitted public comments to the PUC, indicating the strong amount of interest this issue had in the community. Based on the amount I have already heard from my constituents since the notice of a proposed rate increase went out last week, I have every reason to believe that the residents will be just as engaged in this rate case. To ensure that the Commission is accessible to residents who want to make sure their voices are heard, I cannot think of a better location to hold one of your public input hearings than in Limerick Township. With the strong interest in the case in our local area, a

hearing here would be justified and well-attended, and be a far more convenient way for our residents to weigh in than individually sending letters by mail.

I encourage your favorable consideration of this request for a public input hearing in Limerick Township on the proposed wastewater rate increase submitted by Aqua. Thank you for your time, and please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or to discuss further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph P. Ciresi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Representative Joe Ciresi  
146<sup>th</sup> Legislative District