

BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission,	:	
Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement	:	
	:	P-2024-3051855
	:	I -2024-3051857
v.	:	
	:	
	:	
Conneaut Lake Park Water Corporation, Inc.	:	

**Order Granting the Office of Consumer Advocate’s Request  
for the Assignment of a Separate Settlement Judge**

On October 28, 2024, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission’s Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement (I&E) filed pursuant to Section 529 of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 529, the above-captioned Petition. In the settlement of Conneaut Lake Park Water Corporation, Inc.’s (CLPWC) recent base rate case, *Pa. PUC v. Conneaut Lake Park Water Corp.*, R-2023-3041575 (Order entered August 1, 2024), the parties to that proceeding agreed that I&E would file the instant Petition to determine whether the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) should order a capable public utility to acquire CLPWC.

Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) Eranda Vero and Arlene Ashton, the ALJs assigned to CLPWC’s recent base rate case, have also been assigned to I&E’s Section 529 Petition proceeding.

In its Prehearing Conference Memorandum in the Section 529 proceeding, the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) stated that it “welcomes and will participate in settlement discussions” and further stated that it prefers the assignment of a settlement judge rather than a mediator because of the issues involved in this proceeding. OCA also requested that in order to preserve the impartiality of the presiding officers in the proceedings, a separate settlement judge be appointed and that ALJs Vero and Ashton remain the presiding officers who would hear the case if it does not settle.

ALJs Vero and Ashton held a prehearing conference on November 13, 2024, during which OCA repeated its request for the assignment of a separate settlement judge to this proceeding. The other parties, I&E, the Office of Small Business Advocate, Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc., and Douglas A. Smith, either agreed with OCA's request or did not object to it.

OCA's request for the assignment of a separate Settlement Judge is granted. ALJ Gail Chiodo is assigned to serve as the settlement judge in this proceeding. ALJs Vero and Ashton remain the adjudicatory judges and will adjudicate the case if it does not settle. The recommended decision in this case will be authored by ALJs Vero and Ashton.

Date: November 25, 2024

*Charles Rainey*  
Charles E. Rainey, Jr  
Chief Administrative Law Judge

**P-2024-3051855, I-2024-3051857 – PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILTIY COMMISSION  
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT v. CONNEAUT LAKE PARK  
WATER CORPORTION INC**

*Revised: November 13, 2024*

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