

**PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265**

Public Meeting held March 27, 2025

Commissioners Present:

Stephen M. DeFrank, Chairman
Kimberly Barrow, Vice Chair
Kathryn L. Zerfuss
John F. Coleman, Jr.
Ralph V. Yanora

Wonderview Water Company, Inc.
And
Wonderview Sanitary Facilities, Inc.

M-2025-3053936

RATIFICATION ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

On March 14, 2025, Chairman Stephen M. DeFrank issued an *ex parte* Emergency Order (Emergency Order) of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission), taking immediate, affirmative action to protect the customers of Wonderview Water Company, Inc. (WWC), and Wonderview Sanitary Facilities, Inc., (WSF) (hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Systems”) and all members of the public affected by the regulated utility served rendered by the Systems, and to confirm WWC and WFS’s continuing obligation to provide safe, reasonable, and adequate utility service.

Emergency Order at 2.

The Emergency Order noted that WWC and WSF are family owned and operated by Mr. John Yohey. The Commission understands that Mr. Yohey has been working on succession plans for WWC and WSF for an extended period but attempts to obtain a successor owner operator have been, to date, unsuccessful. On March 10, 2025, Mr. Yohey contacted the Commission’s Bureau of Technical Utility Services (TUS) to advise

TUS Staff that although he was unsuccessful in his attempts to sell the Systems and due to extenuating life circumstances, he wanted to give the water and wastewater systems away for no compensation. It is clear that Mr. Yohey's imminent retirement would result in an unauthorized abandonment of the Systems that would create an emergency since the daily operations and maintenance would cease at that point absent the sale of the companies. Emergency Order at 1-2. Accordingly, the Emergency Order directed the immediate commencement of an investigation, pursuant to Section 529 of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 529, into whether the Commission should order a capable public utility to acquire WWC and WSF. *Id* at 3-4. Additionally, the Emergency Order directed Veolia Water Pennsylvania, Inc., (Veolia) to serve as receiver, beginning March 21, 2025, and continuing during the pendency of the Section 529 proceeding. *Id* at 5.

Upon review of the circumstances surrounding the issuance of the *ex parte* Emergency Order, we conclude that it is in the public interest to make such action the action of the full Commission. **THEREFORE,**

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the *ex parte* Emergency Order issued March 14, 2025, at Docket No. M-2025-3053936, is hereby ratified.
2. That pursuant to the March 14, 2025 Emergency Order at the above-captioned docket, an investigation shall be instituted into whether the Commission should order a capable public utility to acquire Wonderview Water Company, Inc. and Wonderview Sanitary Facilities, Inc. pursuant to 66 Pa.C.S. § 529.
3. That the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement is expected to participate in the aforementioned Section 529 investigation proceeding.

4. That pursuant to 66 Pa.C.S. § 529(g), the Commission directs Veolia Water Pennsylvania, Inc., to act as Receiver for Wonderview Water Company, Inc. and Wonderview Sanitary Facilities, Inc. in accordance with Appendix A that was attached to the March 14, 2025 Emergency Order, beginning on March 21, 2025, and continuing during the pendency of the Section 529 investigation proceeding ordered above.

5. That a copy of this Ratification Order be served upon all parties served with the *ex parte* Emergency Order issued March 14, 2025.

BY THE COMMISSION



Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: March 27, 2025

ORDER ENTERED: March 27, 2025