

**BEFORE
THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission	:	
Section 529 Investigation into the Acquisition	:	M-2025-3053936
of Wonderview Water Company, Inc. and	:	
Wonderview Sanitary Facilities, Inc.	:	

PREHEARING CONFERENCE ORDER

On March 14, 2025, Chairman Stephen M. DeFrank of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) issued an *ex parte* Emergency Order (Emergency Order) that, *inter alia*, ordered an investigation 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. § 529.¹ A Prehearing Conference is scheduled in this case for **Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.** To participate in the conference, you must dial the toll-free number listed below. You will be prompted to enter a PIN number, which is also listed below. The telephone system will connect you to the conference.

CALL-IN INFORMATION

Toll-free Bridge Number: 1-888-456-5124
PIN Number: 9563241

You must call into the conference on the scheduled day and time. Failure of any party to attend the prehearing conference without good cause shall constitute a waiver of all objections to the agreements reached and matters decided at the prehearing conference. You will not be called by the Administrative Law Judge.

¹ The Emergency Order also directed Veolia Water Pennsylvania, Inc., to act as Receiver for Wonderview Water Company, Inc. and Wonderview Sanitary Facilities, Inc. beginning March 21, 2025 and to continue during the pendency of the Section 529 proceeding. The Emergency Order was ratified by the Commission on March 27, 2025.

Entities receiving notice of this proceeding that are not yet parties but wish to participate as formal parties to this proceeding should review the Commission's regulations on intervention at 52 Pa. Code §§ 5.71-5.76.

The parties are hereby directed to comply with the following requirements:

1. Each party must file and serve, **prior to 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 2, 2025**, a Prehearing Conference Memorandum that at minimum sets forth the issues you intend to present, and a listing of your proposed witnesses and the subject of their testimony. 52 Pa.Code § 5.222(d). The undersigned should be served a copy by email at jcoogan@pa.gov. Entities seeking to intervene in this proceeding that have not yet been granted party status should still file a Prehearing Conference Memorandum.

2. Parties should be prepared to discuss the notice requirements found at 66 Pa. C.S. § 529(h), including parties' positions regarding whether all entities contemplated under 66 Pa. C.S. § 529(h) have been notified of this proceeding.

3. Parties should be prepared to discuss the requirement at 66 Pa. C.S. § 529(h) that notice be provided to customers of the initiation of this proceeding in the same manner in which the utility is required to notify its customers of proposed general rate increases.

4. A request for a change of the scheduled Prehearing Conference date must state the agreement or opposition of other parties and must be submitted no later than five (5) days prior to the Prehearing Conference. 52 Pa.Code § 1.15(b). Only the undersigned Administrative Law Judge may grant a request for a change of a prehearing conference. Such changes are granted only in rare situations where sufficient cause exists. In accordance with the foregoing, absent a continuance for good cause, all parties must be prepared to participate in the scheduled Prehearing Conference.

5. Please review the regulations pertaining to prehearing conferences, 52 Pa.Code § 5.221-§ 5.223, and in particular, § 5.222(d) which provides, in part:

(d) Parties and counsel will be expected to attend the conference fully prepared for a useful discussion of all problems involved in the proceeding, both procedural and substantive, and fully authorized to make commitments with respect thereto.

(1) The preparation must include submission of a prehearing memorandum and list:

(i) The presently identified issues.

(ii) The names and addresses of the witnesses.

(iii) The proposed area of testimony of each witness.

(2) The preparation may include:

(i) Development of a proposed procedural schedule.

(ii) Advance study of all relevant materials.

(iii) Advance informal communication between the parties, including requests for additional data and information, to the extent it appears feasible and desirable.

6. Parties should review the regulations relating to discovery, specifically 52 Pa.Code §5.331(b), which provides, *inter alia*, that “a party shall endeavor to initiate discovery as early in the proceedings as reasonably possible,” and 52 Pa.Code § 5.322, which encourages parties to exchange information on an informal basis. All parties are urged to cooperate in discovery. There are limitations on discovery and sanctions for abuse of the discovery process. 52 Pa.Code §§ 5.361, 5.371-5.372.

7. Pursuant to 52 Pa.Code §§ 1.21 & 1.22, if you are an individual, you may represent yourself or you may be represented by an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or admitted *Pro Hac Vice*. However, if you are a partnership, corporation, trust, association, or governmental agency or subdivision, you must be represented in this proceeding by an attorney licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or

admitted *Pro Hac Vice*. Unless you are an attorney, you may not represent someone else. Attorneys shall ensure that their appearance is entered in accordance with the provisions of 52 Pa.Code § 1.24(b).

8. Failure of a party to attend the prehearing conference without good cause shown shall constitute a waiver of all objections to the agreements reached and matters decided at the prehearing conference, including, but not limited to, any special discovery rules and the litigation schedule established for this case. 52 Pa.Code §§ 5.222(e).

9. **You must serve the presiding Administrative Law Judge directly with a copy of any document that you file in this proceeding.** If you send the undersigned any correspondence or document, you must send a copy to all other parties.

Date: April 16, 2025

_____/s/
John M. Coogan
Administrative Law Judge

M-2025-3053936 - WONDERVIEW WATER COMPANY INC AND WONDERVIEW SANITARY FACILITIES INC

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