

**PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA 17120**

**Pennsylvania-American Water Company
Supplement No. 55 to Tariff Water – PA
P.U.C. No. 5**

**Public Meeting held November 6, 2025
Docket No. R-2025-3057687
3057687-TUS**

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER KATHRYN L. ZERFUSS

By today's Order, the Commission is approving Pennsylvania-American Water Company's (PAWC's) tariff rider, the PFAS Litigation Universal Credit Rider, which will provide credit to customers stemming from the net proceeds that PAWC receives from litigation against manufacturers of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PAWC will give a bill credit of approximately \$26 to each of its active customers.

I commend PAWC for its thoughtfulness in taking this proactive measure to help its customers. Pennsylvania families are facing rising costs for essential needs and services, including public utility services, and are increasingly forced to choose between spending money on food, diapers, and utility bills. Nation-wide, customers, on average, are paying at least 3% of their income for water services, a most basic necessity, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. The burden of this cost can be even greater in some instances for more vulnerable households, which may spend up to 40% or more of their income on water bills.¹ Many Pennsylvania families are also facing rising energy costs and energy insecurity, and a recent study showed that nearly 27% percent of Americans have reduced or eliminated expenses for food and medicine so they could afford to pay their energy bill.²

At the same time, federal funding availability for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program has been delayed, and the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program has been discontinued. I appreciate PAWC's mindful consideration of its customers' needs during these unprecedented times, and I encourage other public utilities to find similar ways to help their customers.

DATE: November 6, 2025


Kathryn L. Zerfuss, Commissioner

¹ Brookings Research, Millions of Americans Lack Affordable Water Access. Here's How Local Utilities Can Help (February 27, 2025), available at [Millions of Americans lack affordable water access. Here's how local utilities can help. | Brookings](#).

² HelpAdvisor Survey, Millions of Americans Struggling to Keep Up with Rising Energy Costs, available at <https://www.helpadvisor.com/housing/americans-struggling-to-pay-energy-bills-study>.