



including: (1) York Water's filing; (2) formal complaints; (3) public input testimony from 47 customers provided during the four public input hearings held in this case, (4) the extensive record of written testimony and exhibits built by the active parties in this case, and (5) statements of opposition from those who oppose the Partial Settlement. I have also considered that while the OCA, the OSBA and I&E actively litigated this case and opposed aspects of York Water's rate requests for varying reasons, with the limited exception of the litigated water allocation issue, each of these parties independently determined to end their litigation in favor of the terms contained in the Partial Settlement,

To that end, when the OCA, the OSBA, I&E, and York Water entered the Partial Settlement as Joint Petitioners, they advocated for approval of the settlement and they jointly submitted a 182-page settlement package in support of the Partial Settlement. As part of the Partial Settlement package, each party submitted a Statement in Support of Settlement to meet its burden of proving that the terms and conditions of the Partial Settlement are in the public interest. By way of example:

- York Water identified that the Company's need to invest in infrastructure replacements, improvements, and additions was a major driver of the rate increase, citing a projecting spend of (1) \$86.3 million in replacements, improvements, and additions to the Company's water facilities; and (2) over \$13 million for its wastewater facilities through the first two months of 2027. No party challenged the scope of York Water's projected infrastructure replacements. While York Water agreed to settle its rate case for less revenue than requested, it did so in a manner that would still enable the Company to provide safe and reliable service to its customers while balancing their need for reasonable rates.<sup>3</sup>
- OCA submitted that the Partial Settlement's revenue increase, which is \$4.8 million less than York Water's total combined request, represents a result that would be within the range of likely outcomes if the case was fully litigated. According to the OCA, the Partial Settlement includes important consumer protections that might not otherwise be achieved by and through litigation of this case, including: (1) a settled revenue allocation that prevented residential customers from bearing a greater portion of the overall revenue increase; (2) mitigation of the Company's proposed \$24.85 residential water customer charge to \$19.75; and (3) doubling the funding level, from \$40,000 to \$80,000, for the Company's low-income bill discount program.

- OSBA stressed that the Partial Settlement’s reduction of York Water’s overall revenue increase closely aligned with the recommendation that OSBA submitted in testimony, representing a just and reasonable result. Additionally, the OSBA indicated that the Partial Settlement would limit the increase to the small business customers in Greene, Hamilton, and Letterkenny Township service territories to 1.5 times the system average wastewater revenue increase, which significantly benefits those customers.<sup>4</sup>
- I&E explained that it only agreed to the \$18.85 million Partial Settlement after conducting an extensive investigation of York Water’s filing and determining an amount of revenue that the Company needs to provide safe, effective, and reliable service to its customers. I&E cited to several benefits of the Partial Settlement, including York Water’s agreement to reduce the residential customer charge from \$24.85, as proposed, to \$19.75, mitigating the impact to customers. I&E noted that York Water agreed to the reduced customer charge, representing a tradeoff between revenue stability from a higher customer charge, and affordability and conservation from a lower customer charge.<sup>5</sup>

In totality, after careful consideration of the full record in this case and the Partial Settlement package, I agree with the Administrative Law Judges that the active parties in this case, the OCA, OSBA, I&E, and York Water, met their burden of proving that the Partial Settlement terms are reasonable, supported by substantial evidence, and in the public interest by balancing the interests of York Water and its customers.

**February 19, 2026**  
**Date**

  
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**Stephen M. DeFrank**  
**Chairman**

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<sup>4</sup> Joint Petition for Approval of Partial Settlement, Appendix F at 3.

<sup>5</sup> Joint Petition for Approval of Partial Settlement, Appendix D at 4, 7-8.