

**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.	:	

STAY ORDER # 4

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. The Emergency Order also directed Veolia Water Pennsylvania, Inc. (Veolia), to act as Receiver for Wonderview Water Company, Inc. and Wonderview Sanitary Facilities, Inc. (collectively, Wonderview) 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.

On April 16, 2025, a hearing notice was issued establishing a telephonic prehearing conference for May 7, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. and assigning me as the Presiding Officer. Also on April 16, 2025, a Prehearing Conference Order was issued, setting forth rules that would govern the prehearing conference.

On April 17, 2025, counsel for the Commission's Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement (I&E) filed a Notice of Appearance.

Also on April 17, 2025, counsel for Veolia filed a Notice of Appearance.

On April 23, 2025, counsel for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) filed a Notice of Appearance.

On April 24, 2025, counsel for the Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) filed a Notice of Appearance.

Also on April 24, 2025, Veolia filed a Motion to Stay the Proceeding (Motion to Stay). Veolia's Motion to Stay indicated that the following parties do not oppose the Motion to Stay: Wonderview, the Office of Consumer Advocate, OSBA, I&E, DEP, Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc., and Community Utilities of Pennsylvania, Inc. (CUP).

On April 30, 2025, counsel for OSBA filed a Notice of Intervention and Notice of Appearance of additional counsel.

On May 2, 2025, Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. and Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc. (collectively, Aqua) filed a Petition to Intervene. Also on May 2, 2025, DEP filed a Petition to Intervene.

On May 2, 2025, Veolia filed a prehearing memorandum.

The prehearing conference convened on May 7, 2025, as scheduled. The following parties were present and represented by the following counsel: Jonathan Nase, Esquire, for Veolia; Carrie Wright, Esquire, for I&E; Steven Gray, Esquire, for the OSBA; Alexander Stahl, Esquire, for Aqua; Amanda Chaplin, Esquire, and Geoffrey Ayers, Esquire, for DEP. John Yohey, President of Wonderview, appeared, but was not represented by counsel.

No responses to the Motion to Stay were filed. On May 19, 2025, I issued an Order granting the Motion to Stay. The Order directed Veolia to provide a report by e-mail to the undersigned and the parties to this proceeding by July 18, 2025, and also directed Veolia to file a status report by September 16, 2025, indicating whether the stay should be extended and, if

so, for how long or, in the alternative advising the undersigned that the Section 529 Investigation should proceed.

Veolia provided a report by e-mail to the undersigned and the parties to this proceeding on July 17, 2025. Veolia filed a status report on September 16, 2025.

On September 22, 2025, I issued Stay Order # 2, extending the stay granted by Order issued on May 19, 2025.

Veolia provided a report by e-mail to the undersigned and the parties to this proceeding on November 21, 2025. Veolia provided an updated report by e-mail to the undersigned and the parties to this proceeding on December 5, 2025. Veolia filed a status report on January 20, 2026.

On January 23, 2026, I issued Stay Order # 3, extending the stay granted by Order issued on May 19, 2025.

Veolia provided a report by e-mail to the undersigned and the parties to this proceeding on March 24, 2026. Veolia filed a status report and motion for further extension for stay on May 22, 2026 (May 2026 Status Report and Motion). In the May 2026 Status Report and Motion, Veolia requested that the stay be extended for another 120 days to allow the parties to continue settlement negotiations. Veolia reports that parties appear to be very close to a settlement in principle, but have not yet reached a settlement in principle. Parties are continuing the negotiation a Settlement Term Sheet with numerous attachments (including maps and/or legal descriptions of the Water Service Territory and Wastewater Service Territory, *pro forma* tariff supplements for the Water System and the Wastewater System). Additionally, Veolia states that parties are negotiating Plans for Improvements for the Water System and the Wastewater System, rather than filing those Plans for Improvement separately and, citing 66 Pa. C.S. § 529(j), giving DEP an “adequate opportunity” to comment on the plans.

Similar to the previous requests for an extension of the stay, Veolia's Status Report and Motion requests that it be directed to (a) provide a 60-day status report to the ALJ via e-mail; and (b) file a status report with the Secretary's Bureau at the end of the 120-day stay period indicating whether the stay should be extended and, if so, for how long or, in the alternative, advising the ALJ that the Section 529 Investigation should proceed. Veolia stated that it discussed the request for an extension with the other active parties to this proceeding, i.e., Wonderview, OSBA, I&E, DEP, and Aqua, and no party objected to the request to extend the stay.

Requests for an extension of time may be made by motion where good cause is shown. 52 Pa. Code § 1.15. The Commission has recognized the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's definition of good cause as "conduct which is reasonable under all the circumstances, thereby justifying the [c]laimaint's actions." See *In re Application of Penn Access Corporation and Digital Direct of Pittsburgh, Inc.*, Docket No. A-310006, 1992 Pa. PUC LEXIS 56, at *9 (1992) (citing *Frumento v. Unemployment Comp. Bd. of Review*, 351 A.2d 631 (Pa. 1976)). Additionally, Commission regulations provide presiding officers with the authority to regulate the course of proceedings. 52 Pa. Code § 5.483(a). Presiding officers are required to conduct fair and impartial hearings and maintain order. 52 Pa. Code § 5.485(a).

Stay Order # 3 was granted in part on the basis that parties were engaging in settlement discussions. I still believe it is reasonable to provide parties additional time to continue settlement discussions. Veolia detailed the complexity involved in finalizing settlement negotiations, including negotiating plans for improvements for the water and wastewater system. Therefore, I find there is good cause to extend the stay. As has been stated in previous orders, the parties and the Commission may benefit by the requested stay if Veolia, Wonderview, and the other active parties are able to reach a settlement agreement and thereby eliminate the time commitment and costs associated with a litigated Section 529 investigation. Additionally, as has also been stated in previous orders extending the stay, the customers of Wonderview would not be harmed because Veolia is currently acting as receiver for Wonderview, and no party to this proceeding objects to the request for an extension of the stay. However, if status reports do not demonstrate that settlement discussions are progressing, it may be necessary to schedule a status

conference or prehearing conference. Accordingly, parties are advised that further requests to extend the stay should continue to provide detail justifying why additional time is needed.

As an additional matter, on May 20, 2026, Veolia filed a quarterly status report in this proceeding pursuant to the Emergency Order issued by the Commission on March 14, 2025. This quarterly status report is a filing made pursuant to Appendix A, Paragraph 1.o. of the Emergency Order. The cover letter accompanying the status report states that Veolia has not filed quarterly status reports since September 8, 2025 because this case has been stayed.

The purpose of any stay I have issued in this proceeding is not to suspend any duty or responsibility assigned to Veolia by the Commission to act as receiver pursuant to the Emergency Order or any other order issued by the Commission. To the contrary, I have found good cause to grant or extend the stay in my three previous orders in part because Veolia is currently acting as receiver for Wonderview. The stay is only for the purpose of staying litigation, including the setting of a procedural schedule. If there are any outstanding concerns regarding the scope of the stay, parties should contact the undersigned for further direction.

ORDER

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That this proceeding is stayed for an additional 120 days.
2. That Veolia Water Pennsylvania, Inc. shall provide a report by e-mail to the undersigned and the parties to this proceeding by July 27, 2026.
3. That Veolia Water Pennsylvania, Inc. shall file a status report by September 25, 2026, indicating whether the stay should be extended and, if so, for how long or, in the alternative advising the undersigned that the Section 529 Investigation should proceed.

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

Revised: February 20, 2026

JOHN YOHEY PRESIDENT
WONDERVIEW SANITARY FAC INC
255 RIVERVIEW AVENUE
BLOOMSBURG PA 17815
570.204.1356
john_yohey@yahoo.com
Accepts eService May 28, 2026

JOHN YOHEY PRESIDENT
WONDERVIEW WATER CO INC
P.O. BOX 188
BLOOMSBURG PA 17815
570.204.1356
john_yohey@yahoo.com
Served via US first class mail and email
May 28, 2026

REBECCA LYTTLE ESQUIRE
STEVEN GRAY ESQUIRE
OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
ADVOCATE
555 WALNUT STREET
FORUM PLACE 1ST FLOOR
HARRISBURG PA 17101
717.783.2525
relyttle@pa.gov
sgray@pa.gov
Served via US first class mail and email
May 28, 2026

ALEXANDER R STAHL ESQUIRE
AQUA PENNSYLVANIA INC
762 W LANCASTER AVENUE
BRYN MAWR PA 19010
610.645.1130
astahl@aquaamerica.com
Served via eService May 28, 2026

CARRIE B WRIGHT ESQUIRE
PA PUC BIE LEGAL TECHNICAL
SECOND FLOOR WEST
400 NORTH STREET
HARRISBURG PA 17120
717.783.6156
carwright@pa.gov
Served via eService May 28, 2026

DAVID P ZAMBITO ESQUIRE
JONATHAN NASE ESQUIRE
COZEN O'CONNOR
17 NORTH SECOND ST SUITE 1410
HARRISBURG PA 17101
717.703.5892
717.870.2725
dzambito@cozen.com
jnase@cozen.com
Served via eService May 28, 2026
(Counsel for Veolia Water Pennsylvania, Inc.)

AMANDA CHAPLIN ESQUIRE
208 WEST THIRD ST SUITE 101
WILLIAMSPORT PA 17701
570.321.6568
achaplin@pa.gov
Served via eService May 29, 2026
*(Counsel for PA Department of
Environmental Protection)*