

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

**Informal Investigation of  
Pennsylvania-American Water  
Company**

**Public Meeting – March 26, 2009  
2066530-OSA  
Docket No. M-2008-2066530**

**STATEMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN TYRONE J. CHRISTY**

Before the Commission for disposition is the Joint Settlement Agreement (Settlement) filed on September 26, 2008, by Pennsylvania American Water Company. (PAWC or the Company) and the Commission's Law Bureau Prosecutory Staff and the Bureau of Consumer Services (Prosecutory Staff). The Settlement, among other things, provides for a civil penalty of \$3,000.

At the Public Meeting held December 18, 2008, the Commission adopted an Opinion and Order seeking comments from interested parties regarding this Settlement. At that time I issued a separate Statement requesting comments on the concept of applying the \$3,000 civil penalty to PAWC's hardship fund program, H2O Help to Others. Supplemental money contributed to this program would have benefited numerous low-income customers.

I am disappointed that no comments were filed on this issue. Providing additional assistance to low-income customers is an important consideration, particularly during these tough economic times during which many individuals are being forced to choose between paying for utility service and paying for other essentials for their families.

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**DATE**

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**TYRONE J. CHRISTY, VICE CHAIRMAN**