RECEIVED

2017 JUN 28 PHOHECE Bial: 717.255.7641

tniesen@tntlawfirm.com

PA PUC June 28, 2017

Via Hand Delivery

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street P.O. Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

In re: Docket No. A-2017-2605434

Application of Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc. pursuant to Sections 1102 and 1329 of the Public Utility Code for Approval of its Acquisition of the Wastewater System Assets of Limerick Township

### Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

We are counsel to Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc. in the above matter and are submitting, for filing with this letter, responses to the Bureau of Technical Utility Services Data Request 1, Nos. A-1 through A-12 and A-16 through A-18 and objections to Data Request 1, Nos. A-13 through A-15.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS, NIESEN & THOMAS, LLC

Thomas T. Niese

Certificate of Service (w/encl.) cc:

Jordan Van Order, TUS (via hand delivery, w/encl.)

Alexander R. Stahl, Esquire (via overnight mail, w/encl.)

Respondent: Mark J. Bubel, Sr., P.E.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

A-1 The Application identifies 750 feet of wastewater pipe to be acquired in the northeast corner of Royersford Borough. Please state the pipe size, material type, and whether it is gravity-flow pipe or force main.

### **RESPONSE**

The Township has informed Aqua that the 750 feet of wastewater pipe to be acquired in the northeast corner of Royersford Borough is 8" diameter terra cotta gravity sewer pipe.

Respondent: Khaled Hassan, P.E.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

A-2 Please separately quantify the total lengths of gravity-flow pipe and force main, and the total manhole count for each of Limerick Township's (Limerick's) two wastewater systems.

### **RESPONSE**

Please see the summary below.

### King Road WWTF Basin

Gravity-flow Pipe Total 355,079 feet
Force Main Pipe Total 34,071 feet
Manhole Total 1,465 manholes

### Possum Hollow WWTF Basin

Gravity-flow Pipe Total 90,997 feet
Force Main Pipe Total 9,518 feet
Manhole Total 379 manhole

Respondent: Mark J. Bubel, Sr., P.E.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

A-3 The total number of pump stations which Aqua-WD will acquire from Limerick is unclear in the Application. Please clarify the total number of pump stations to be acquired from Limerick as well as separately identify and list the stations that exist and those that are proposed.

### RESPONSE

A total of 17 pump stations will be acquired from Limerick Township. The following is a list of the 17 existing pump stations and the one proposed pump station:

Pump Station No.	Drainage Area <sup>1</sup>	Existing?	Proposed?
1	Possum Hollow	Yes	No
16	Possum Hollow	Yes	No
17	Possum Hollow	Yes	No
18	Possum Hollow	Yes	No
2	King Road	Yes	No
3	King Road	Yes	No
4	King Road	Yes	No
5	King Road	Yes	No
6A	King Road	Yes	No
7	King Road	Yes	No
10	King Road	Yes	No
12	King Road	Yes	No
13	King Road	Yes	No
14	King Road	Yes	No
15	King Road	Yes	No
19	King Road	Yes	No
20	King Road	Yes	No
Sankey			
development proposed P.S.	King Road	No	Yes

<sup>1.</sup> Drainage area refers to which treatment plant the flow from the subject pump station is directed.

Respondent: Khaled Hassan, P.E.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

A-4 The Application's Exhibit A map identifies a proposed pump station near the requested territory's boundary Line Segment 53 which does not appear to be listed in the Exhibit W "Engineer's Assessment of Tangible Property". Please describe the proposed pump station and identify the pump station's estimated construction cost and date of construction completion.

### RESPONSE

The proposed pump station will be a submersible pump station with Flygt N3102 – 5hp nonclog sewage pumps, duplex system with a grinder on the inlet. Pumps are rated at 223 GPM and will also have an emergency generator in the pump station building. The estimated cost of the pump station is \$590,000. The construction is estimated to be completed by the end of 2017.

Respondent: Mark J. Bubel, Sr., P.E.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

A-5

Please describe the maintenance obligations related to grinder pumps on private properties for which Aqua-WD will liable per Section 2.04(a)(v) of the Application's Asset Purchase Agreement (APA).

### RESPONSE

The operation and maintenance agreements for grinder pumps are included in the Application as CONFIDENTIAL Exhibit F. The maintenance obligations for the grinder pumps remain with the owners of the grinder pumps.

Respondent: Khaled Hassan, P.E.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

A-6
Please state whether each of the Pending Development Plans (PDP) identified in Schedule 4.19 of the Application's APA have Act 537 Official Sewage Facilities Planning approval from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

### RESPONSE

Please see the below table:

Residential Pending or Approved Land Development Plans (PDP)	Has PDP Received Act 537 DEP Sewage Facilities Planning Module Approval? Yes / No
Ely Subdivision(fruitville & smith)	Yes
Sankey Residential (91)	Yes
28 Brownback Road (4)	Yes
Sankey Tract- Mark Quigley's (186 Towns)	No
Moscarello (292 W. Ridge) 72 Towns	No
Commerical Pending or Approved Land Development Plans	
100 W . Ridge Pike (Mazzamuto)	Yes
IOth Ave 3620 retail pad (CR-4)	Yes
Evan's Industrial 394 W. Linfield Road, 125,000 SF	Yes
Sams Club/Wal mart	No
Micro Coax- 206 Jones Blvd (on bold)	Yes
1310 Main St. 6676 Pub/tavern	No
Carr- Penn Road 5000 SF Warehouse	Not Required
Crouse Building 826 N. Lewis Road	Not Required
Hampton Inn- 4,380 SF Restaurant Pad	Yes

Linfield Corp. Ctr Lot 59 & 60	Yes
Redgo- Phase 1 (49,000 SF commercial)	Yes
Redgo- Phase 2 (AQC)	Yes
Redgo- Phase 2 (20,000 SF Commercial)	Yes
Grass Sports	Exemption Granted
Sanatoga Springs Lot 2 Ph 2 & 3	Exemption Granted
J&D Thomas (2576 SF Office)	Exemption Granted
West Mont Soccer	Exemption Granted
Sankey Tract- Mark Quigley's Senior care (156 ILU + 152 ALU)	No
Sankey Tract- Mark Quigley's MS Commercial (18K SF comm.+14K SF drugstore+32 Apts)	No

\*

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

A-7 Please quantify how the payment of \$400,000 identified in Section 7.10 of the Application's APA was calculated and provide any supporting documentation justifying the payment amount.

### RESPONSE

The \$400,000 payment is a contract term negotiated between the buyer and the seller. The payment is to provide for work done by seller related to developments moving forward between the date of the agreement and closing.

Respondent: Khaled Hassan, P.E.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

A-8 Please provide a map identifying the PDP locations identified in Schedule 4.19 of the Application's APA.

### **RESPONSE**

Please see the attached map. A full size copy of the map is being filed with the Office of the Secretary of the Public Utility Commission and provided to the Bureau of Technical Utility Services, the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement, the Office of Consumer Advocate and the Office of Small Business Advocate.

LIMERICK TOWNSHIP 1 NEWSCHIEF AND RESIDENCES COM-

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### DATA REQUEST 1

A-9 Schedules 2.02(i) and 4.10 of the Application's APA state "(see also notations to asset list in data room)". Please clarify this statement and provide a copy of the referenced notations.

### RESPONSE

The "notations to asset list in data room" are intended to supplement Schedule 2.02(i) – Excluded Assets. The only additional excluded asset is a Brush Hog for Mower. The "notations to asset list in data room" are also intended to supplement Schedule 4.10 – Equipment and Machinery. There are, however, no additional items of equipment or machinery for Schedule 4.10.

Respondent: Mark J. Bubel, Sr., P.E.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

A-10

Please quantify in acres the real property listed in Schedule 4.09 of the Application's APA.

### RESPONSE

### Schedule 4.09

### Real Property

Property	Address	Owned by Twp. Parcel	Parcel Size, Acres
King Road Wastewater Treatment Plant	529 King Rd	37-00-01267-00-1	10.13
North Limerick Road Pump Station (PS #2)	37 N. Limerick Rd	37-00-02352-00-5	0.13097
South Limerick Road Pump Station (PS #3)	302 S. Limerick Rd	37-00-02408-81-4	0.24277
Trinley Road Pump Station (PS #5)	64 Trinley Rd	37-00-05269-10-3	0.09183
King Road Pump Station (PS #7)	571 King Rd	37-00-01266-90-2	0.18540
Neiffer Rd (PS #9) decommissioned	62 Neiffer Rd	37-00-03175-04-6	0.12934
Township Line Pump Station (PS #12)	97 Bartlett Rd	37-00-05233-40-3	0.16129
Cambridge Drive Pump Station (PS #13)	3 Bradford	37-00-00350-81-9	0.06678
Bradford Woods (PS #14)	89 Bradford	37-00-00350-22-5	0.15418

Source: Montgomery County Tax Records

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

A-11

Section 7.10(b) of the Application's APA details potential EDU Fee Cash receipts. Please quantify the outstanding EDU Fee Cash from each respective source. Also, quantify the total amount of EDU Fee Cash Aqua-WD expects to receive from the collective sources and provide calculations or documentation supporting the amounts.

### **RESPONSE**

There is no outstanding EDU Fee Cash currently. The amount future EDU Fee Cash is not known at this time.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

A-12

Aqua-WD's current effective tariff specifies four classes of general metered service: residential, commercial, industrial, and public while Exhibit D from the Application's Exhibit U "Testimony of William C. Packer" indicates Limerick Township classified customers as Residential, Commercial, Apartment, School, Church, or Public. Please explain how Aqua-WD reclassified Limerick customers in compliance with its current effective tariff and quantify the number of Limerick customers to be assigned to each respective class.

### RESPONSE

The classification of Apartments, Churches, and Schools are included in Commercial Class. The number of customers has already been provided in Exhibit U Testimony of William C. Packer, Exhibit D.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### DATA REQUEST 1

A-13 Please explain why Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. (HRG) HRG used six percent as the state tax rate in Schedule F of the Application's Exhibit R "Fair Market Value - Appraisal Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc."

### **OBJECTION**

A-13 is one of three Data Requests of the Bureau of Technical Utility Services ("TUS") asking for information about the Fair Market Value Appraisal of Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. ("HRG"). As addressed further below, this is a contested proceeding in which TUS, the principal technical advisory bureau to the Public Utility Commission ("Commission"), is not a party. While we have answered, without challenge, other TUS Data Requests as a courtesy to TUS, we decline to answer this Data Request and object to it for the several reasons that follow.

This Application proceeding is under Protest by the Office of Consumer Advocate ("OCA"). The Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement ("I&E"), the Commission's prosecutorial arm,<sup>2</sup> has intervened and is actively participating. With the filing of a formal Protest, the matter has been assigned to the Office of Administrative Law Judge with Administrative Law Judge Haas presiding. Evidentiary hearings are scheduled for July 20 and 21, 2017 with briefing, a recommended decision and final Commission decision to follow.

To date, the Office of Consumer Advocate has served 80 discovery requests and I&E has served 7 discovery requests with a five (5) day response time under a tightened time frame. A pre-hearing conference was held on June 28, 2017 where the parties held discussions on and off the record. In addition, at least one intervening party has had a telephone conference to discuss particular questions in the case.

The appraisal methodology of HRG and the HRG appraisal results are litigation issues that could be raised by I&E prosecutors and/or by OCA. I&E and OCA, in point of fact, have asked discovery about the HRG appraisal. Aqua has answered

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Implementation of Act 129 of 2008: Organization of Bureaus and Offices, Docket No. M-2008-2071852, Final Procedural Order entered August 11, 2011 ("Final Procedural Order"), mimeo at 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Final Procedural Order, mimeo at 4 and 5.

the I&E and OCA discovery without waiving any objection it may seek to raise to the admissibility of evidence or the interpretation of Section 1329 at the hearing or briefing stages of the proceeding as explained in Judge Haas's discovery Order dated June 14, 2017.

With formal prosecution of the Application moving forward and appraisal methodology a possible contested issue in the proceeding, the effort of TUS, the advisory bureau, to also investigate appraisal methodology/results suggests an impermissible and illegal commingling of the Commission's prosecutorial and advisory/adjudicatory functions in violation of Lyness v. Com., State Bd. of Medicine, 529 Pa. 535, 605 A.2d 1204 (1992) and Section 308.2(b) of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 308.2(b), which expressly prohibits the commingling of the prosecutorial and advisory functions. Significantly, in this regard, the letter serving the Data Requests directs that Aqua provide copies of responses to the TUS Data Requests to I&E, the OCA and the Office of Small Business Advocate ("OSBA"). It is unclear how or why service upon I&E and the OCA is required. In addition, OSBA is not even intervened in the case.

Along with the foregoing, Aqua is also concerned with the possibility of improper and prejudicial ex parte communications, if, as it appears, TUS is taking on a prosecutorial function in this application proceeding. As an advisory bureau to the Commission, TUS would typically and likely communicate with Commissioner Offices. In a prosecutorial role, TUS would be prohibited from doing so but, yet, those communications could continue. Section 334 of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 334, prohibits ex parte communications in contested matters. On the other hand, if TUS is retaining its advisory function, any conversations between Aqua and TUS on any of the Data Requests could be considered ex parte communications.

Finally, TUS has no statutory authority to inquire of HRG in any event. HRG is a Utility Valuation Expert certified by the Commission to provide fair market value appraisals under Section 1329 of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 1329. HRG was engaged by Limerick Township to provide a Section 1329 fair market value appraisal of its wastewater system.

Through clear statutory language, Section 1329 creates a legislated process for establishing the fair market value of the Limerick Township wastewater system assets. The legislated process requires fair market value appraisals by utility valuation experts and a comparison of the fair market value appraisals to the negotiated purchase price. In this way, the public interest is protected. The process does not allow for TUS to involve itself in the decision making of the UVE.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### DATA REQUEST 1

A-14 Please explain why HRG used an estimated number of customers Limerick will have in the year 2036 to determine the current estimated market value in Schedule D of the Application's Exhibit R "Fair Market Value - Appraisal Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc." Also, please explain why the customer counts and purchase prices in the comparison of other wastewater system acquisitions were not adjusted to the respective 2036 values.

### **OBJECTION**

A-14 is one of three Data Requests of the Bureau of Technical Utility Services ("TUS") asking for information about the Fair Market Value Appraisal of Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. ("HRG"). As addressed further below, this is a contested proceeding in which TUS, the principal technical advisory bureau to the Public Utility Commission ("Commission"), is not a party. While we have answered, without challenge, other TUS Data Requests as a courtesy to TUS, we decline to answer this Data Request and object to it for the several reasons that follow.

This Application proceeding is under Protest by the Office of Consumer Advocate ("OCA"). The Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement ("I&E"), the Commission's prosecutorial arm,<sup>2</sup> has intervened and is actively participating. With the filing of a formal Protest, the matter has been assigned to the Office of Administrative Law Judge with Administrative Law Judge Haas presiding. Evidentiary hearings are scheduled for July 20 and 21, 2017 with briefing, a recommended decision and final Commission decision to follow.

To date, the Office of Consumer Advocate has served 80 discovery requests and I&E has served 7 discovery requests with a five (5) day response time under a tightened time frame. A pre-hearing conference was held on June 28, 2017 where the parties held discussions on and off the record. In addition, at least one intervening party has had a telephone conference to discuss particular questions in the case.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Implementation of Act 129 of 2008: Organization of Bureaus and Offices, Docket No. M-2008-2071852, Final Procedural Order entered August 11, 2011 ("Final Procedural Order"), mimeo at 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Final Procedural Order, mimeo at 4 and 5.

The appraisal methodology of HRG and the HRG appraisal results are litigation issues that could be raised by I&E prosecutors and/or by OCA. I&E and OCA, in point of fact, have asked discovery about the HRG appraisal. Aqua has answered the I&E and OCA discovery without waiving any objection it may seek to raise to the admissibility of evidence or the interpretation of Section 1329 at the hearing or briefing stages of the proceeding as explained in Judge Haas's discovery Order dated June 14, 2017.

With formal prosecution of the Application moving forward and appraisal methodology a possible contested issue in the proceeding, the effort of TUS, the advisory bureau, to also investigate appraisal methodology/results suggests an impermissible and illegal commingling of the Commission's prosecutorial and advisory/adjudicatory functions in violation of Lyness v. Com., State Bd. of Medicine, 529 Pa. 535, 605 A.2d 1204 (1992) and Section 308.2(b) of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 308.2(b), which expressly prohibits the commingling of the prosecutorial and advisory functions. Significantly, in this regard, the letter serving the Data Requests directs that Aqua provide copies of responses to the TUS Data Requests to I&E, the OCA and the Office of Small Business Advocate ("OSBA"). It is unclear how or why service upon I&E and the OCA is required. In addition, OSBA is not even intervened in the case.

Along with the foregoing, Aqua is also concerned with the possibility of improper and prejudicial ex parte communications, if, as it appears, TUS is taking on a prosecutorial function in this application proceeding. As an advisory bureau to the Commission, TUS would typically and likely communicate with Commissioner Offices. In a prosecutorial role, TUS would be prohibited from doing so but, yet, those communications could continue. Section 334 of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 334, prohibits ex parte communications in contested matters. On the other hand, if TUS is retaining its advisory function, any conversations between Aqua and TUS on any of the Data Requests could be considered ex parte communications.

Finally, TUS has no statutory authority to inquire of HRG in any event. HRG is a Utility Valuation Expert certified by the Commission to provide fair market value appraisals under Section 1329 of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 1329. HRG was engaged by Limerick Township to provide a Section 1329 fair market value appraisal of its wastewater system.

Through clear statutory language, Section 1329 creates a legislated process for establishing the fair market value of the Limerick Township wastewater system assets. The legislated process requires fair market value appraisals by utility valuation experts and a comparison of the fair market value appraisals to the negotiated purchase price. In this way, the public interest is protected. The process does not allow for TUS to involve itself in the decision making of the UVE.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

A-15 Please separately explain why HRG did not include property taxes, regulatory assessments, and bad debt expenses in their income valuation.

### **OBJECTION**

A-15 is one of three Data Requests of the Bureau of Technical Utility Services ("TUS") asking for information about the Fair Market Value Appraisal of Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. ("HRG"). As addressed further below, this is a contested proceeding in which TUS, the principal technical advisory bureau to the Public Utility Commission ("Commission"), is not a party. While we have answered, without challenge, other TUS Data Requests as a courtesy to TUS, we decline to answer this Data Request and object to it for the several reasons that follow.

This Application proceeding is under Protest by the Office of Consumer Advocate ("OCA"). The Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement ("I&E"), the Commission's prosecutorial arm, has intervened and is actively participating. With the filing of a formal Protest, the matter has been assigned to the Office of Administrative Law Judge with Administrative Law Judge Haas presiding. Evidentiary hearings are scheduled for July 20 and 21, 2017 with briefing, a recommended decision and final Commission decision to follow.

To date, the Office of Consumer Advocate has served 80 discovery requests and I&E has served 7 discovery requests with a five (5) day response time under a tightened time frame. A pre-hearing conference was held on June 28, 2017 where the parties held discussions on and off the record. In addition, at least one intervening party has had a telephone conference to discuss particular questions in the case.

The appraisal methodology of HRG and the HRG appraisal results are litigation issues that could be raised by I&E prosecutors and/or by OCA. I&E and OCA, in point of fact, have asked discovery about the HRG appraisal. Aqua has answered the I&E and OCA discovery without waiving any objection it may seek to raise to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Implementation of Act 129 of 2008: Organization of Bureaus and Offices, Docket No. M-2008-2071852, Final Procedural Order entered August 11, 2011 ("Final Procedural Order"), mimeo at 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Final Procedural Order, mimeo at 4 and 5.

the admissibility of evidence or the interpretation of Section 1329 at the hearing or briefing stages of the proceeding as explained in Judge Haas's discovery Order dated June 14, 2017.

With formal prosecution of the Application moving forward and appraisal methodology a possible contested issue in the proceeding, the effort of TUS, the advisory bureau, to also investigate appraisal methodology/results suggests an impermissible and illegal commingling of the Commission's prosecutorial and advisory/adjudicatory functions in violation of Lyness v. Com., State Bd. of Medicine, 529 Pa. 535, 605 A.2d 1204 (1992) and Section 308.2(b) of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 308.2(b), which expressly prohibits the commingling of the prosecutorial and advisory functions. Significantly, in this regard, the letter serving the Data Requests directs that Aqua provide copies of responses to the TUS Data Requests to I&E, the OCA and the Office of Small Business Advocate ("OSBA"). It is unclear how or why service upon I&E and the OCA is required. In addition, OSBA is not even intervened in the case.

Along with the foregoing, Aqua is also concerned with the possibility of improper and prejudicial ex parte communications, if, as it appears, TUS is taking on a prosecutorial function in this application proceeding. As an advisory bureau to the Commission, TUS would typically and likely communicate with Commissioner Offices. In a prosecutorial role, TUS would be prohibited from doing so but, yet, those communications could continue. Section 334 of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 334, prohibits ex parte communications in contested matters. On the other hand, if TUS is retaining its advisory function, any conversations between Aqua and TUS on any of the Data Requests could be considered ex parte communications.

Finally, TUS has no statutory authority to inquire of HRG in any event. HRG is a Utility Valuation Expert certified by the Commission to provide fair market value appraisals under Section 1329 of the Public Utility Code, 66 Pa.C.S. § 1329. HRG was engaged by Limerick Township to provide a Section 1329 fair market value appraisal of its wastewater system.

Through clear statutory language, Section 1329 creates a legislated process for establishing the fair market value of the Limerick Township wastewater system assets. The legislated process requires fair market value appraisals by utility valuation experts and a comparison of the fair market value appraisals to the negotiated purchase price. In this way, the public interest is protected. The process does not allow for TUS to involve itself in the decision making of the UVE.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

Please identify if all purchased property is exempt from the public utility realty A-16

tax. If any property is not exempt, please estimate the annual public utility realty

tax expense.

### **RESPONSE**

All sewer property is exempt from public utility realty tax.

Date: 06/28/2017

### APPLICATION OF AQUA PENNSYLVANIA WASTEWATER, INC.

### **DOCKET NO. A-2017-2605434**

### **BUREAU OF TECHNICAL UTILITY SERVICES**

### **DATA REQUEST 1**

A-18 Please quantify how the 0.50% bad debt expense located in Exhibits C and D of the of the Application's Exhibit U "Testimony of William C. Packer" was calculated. Also, please provide a calculation of Aqua-WD's bad debt expense relative to operating revenue for each of the last three years.

### **RESPONSE**

Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc.'s bad debt ratio for the last three years is as follows:

	<u>2016</u>	<u> 2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Wastewater Revenue	\$12,114,548	\$12,065,675	\$11,557,040
Bad Debt Expense	\$130,251	\$143,136	\$125,271
Bad Debt Ratio	1.08%	1.19%	1.08%

Please see the response to A-17 for further explanation of the bad debt expense factor.

### **VERIFICATION**

I, Mark J. Bubel, Sr., Senior Project Engineer of Aqua Services, Inc., hereby state that the facts set forth in my responses to the Bureau of Technical Utility Services Data Request 1 are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Mark J. Bubel, Sr.

Senior Project Engineer Aqua Services, Inc.

RECEIVED
2017 JUN 28 PM 4: 27
2017 JUN 28 PM 4: 27
SECRETARY RESK

### VERIFICATION

I, Khaled R. Hassan, Associate Vice President of Pennoni Associates, Inc., hereby state that the facts set forth in my responses to the Bureau of Technical Utility Services Data Request 1 (A-2, A-4, A-6, and A-8) are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Khaled R. Hassan

Associate Vice President

Pennoni Associates, Inc.

RECEIVED
2017 JUN 28 PM 4: 27
2017 JUN 28 PM 4: 27
SECRETARY BUREAU
SECRETARY DESK

### **VERIFICATION**

I. William C. Packer. Vice President – Controller of Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc., hereby state that the facts set forth in my responses to the Bureau of Technical Utility Services Data Request 1 are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

William C. Packer

Vice President - Controller Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc.

RECEIVED
2011 JUN 28 PM 4: 27
2011 JUN 28 PM 4: 27
SECRETARY RESK

## BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

### The Honorable Steven K. Haas, Presiding

Application of Aqua Pennsylvania Wastewater, Inc., :

Docket No. A-2017-2605434

pursuant to Sections 1102 and 1329 of the Public Utility :

Code for: (1) approval of the acquisition by Aqua of the :

wastewater system assets of Limerick Township situated :

within a portion of Limerick Township and within a portion :

of the Borough of Royersford, Montgomery County, :

Pennsylvania; (2) approval of the right of Aqua to begin to :

offer, render, furnish and supply wastewater service to the :

public in a portion of Limerick Township, Montgomery :

County, Pennsylvania; and (3) an order approving the :

acquisition that includes the ratemaking rate base of the :

Limerick Township wastewater system assets pursuant to :

Section 1329(c)(2) of the Public Utility Code :

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2017, served a true and correct copy of responses to the Bureau of Technical Utility Services Data Request 1, Nos. A-1 through A-12 and A-16 through A-18 and objections to Data Request 1, Nos. A-13 through A-15, upon the persons and in the manner set forth below:

### VIA HAND DELIVERY

Christine Maloni Hoover
Erin L. Gannon
Senior Assistant Consumer Advocates
Office of Consumer Advocate
555 Walnut Street, Forum Place, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923
choover@paoca.org
egannon@paoca.org

John Evans, Small Business Advocate Office of Small Business Advocate 300 North Second Street, Suite 202 Harrisburg, PA 17102 Carrie B. Wright, Prosecutor
Phillip Kirchner, Prosecutor
Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265
carwright@pa.gov
phikirchne@pa.gov

# RECEIVED

### **VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY**

2017 JUN 28 PH 4: 27

Thomas S. Wyatt, Esquire Dilworth Paxson LLP 1500 Market Street Suite 3500E Philadelphia, PA 19102 twyatt@dilworthlaw.com Glenn Watkins
Technical Associates SECRETARY'S BUREAU
1503 Santa Rosa Road FRONT DESK
Suite 130
Richmond, VA 23229
watkinsg@tai-econ.com

Thomas T. Niesen

PA Attorney ID No. 31379

# NO SCANNED IMAGES ARE AVAILABLE FOR OVERSIZED MAPS OR PLANS

# MAPS AND PLANS MAY BE VIEWED IN THE COMMISSION'S FILE ROOM