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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

STATE WATER PLANNING COUNCIL

Regular Meeting held Via Teleconference on April 2, 2024, beginning at 1:33 p.m.

H e l d B e f o r e:

JOHN W. BETKOSKI, III, WPC CHAIRMAN,
and PURA VICE-CHAIRMAN

A p p e a r a n c e s:

WATER PLANNING COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:

JOHN W. BETKOSKI, III, CHAIRMAN (PURA)

ERIC McPHEE (DPH)

MARTIN HEFT (OPM)

ALSO PRESENT (on record):

VIRGINIA de LIMA

ALICEA CHARAMUT

KIM CZAPLA

CAROL HASKINS

RICH HANRATTY

DAN LAWRENCE

ALI HIBBARD

DON MORRISSEY

Staff:

LAURA LUPOLI

(Begin: 1:36 p.m.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to the Water Planning Council meeting for April 2nd, 2024.

Before we begin the meeting, I would like to introduce our new designee from the Department of Public Health, Eric McPhee. Welcome, Eric.

Would you like to introduce yourself, sir?

ERIC McPHEE: Sure, I can do that. Eric McPhee, Supervising Environmental Analyst with the Department of Public Health Drinking Water Section. I'm excited to be here and look forward to working with all of you.

My primary role currently with the agency is water supply planning. So I should be able to hit the ground running in this work. We work individually with the planning of public water systems and also regional planning. A lot of my work deals with protection of drinking water sources. We do a lot of permitting and outreach, believe it or not, over 25 years at this point, originally as an engineer, and now I do more analysis and planning.

My degree is civil and environmental

engineering from the University of Connecticut. I live in Portland my wife and two children.

Nice to meet everyone.

THE CHAIRMAN: Welcome. Happy to have you here.

And Graham cannot be with us today because he's got a meeting at the State Capitol.

But with that, before we begin, I'm going to turn it over to Martin Heft.

MARTIN HEFT: So thank you, Chair. Good afternoon, everybody. I'd like to make a motion that we add one item to our agenda under action items. That would be action item 4B -- would be the appointment of co-chairs to the advisory group.

ERIC McPHEE: We have limited number of seconds today.

I will second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Motion made a second that we add the selection of the co-chairs of the WPCA to the agenda. Any questions on the motion?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: If not, all in favor signify by saying aye.

THE COUNCIL: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Motion carried. Thank you very much.

The first order of business was the second order of business, the approval of the meeting transcripts. The first is the February 23rd, 2024, special meeting transcript.

Do I hear a motion?

MARTIN HEFT: Jack, I will make a motion, because I know Eric won't be able to. I will make a motion that we approve both transcripts, the February 23rd and March 5th.

THE CHAIRMAN: And I will second those.

All those in favor?

THE COUNCIL: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Motion carried. Public comment on any agenda items today? Public comment? Public comment on any agenda items?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. We'll move on to number four, action items. We'll have the WPCA nominee for it, Carol Haskins, who's been very, very busy putting this together, and I thank you for that.

Carol?

CAROL HASKINS: Thank you. Okay. I'm here. I'm just trying to find my unmute button and make sure I've got the right files open here -- or screen share.

At the Water Planning Council advisory group on March 19th the committee presented what we had for candidates for -- (inaudible.)

THE REPORTER: I just lost Carol.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah. Carol, could you repeat? You froze for a second there?

CAROL HASKINS: Okay. Yeah. I've got a little unstable Internet connection here, apparently.

Can you hear me now?

THE REPORTER: Yes.

CAROL HASKINS: So I was saying the Water Planning Council advisory group met March 19th. We reviewed the candidates that submitted their interest in serving on the advisory group and tried to align them with which category of representation we felt best for them.

There were candidates that we had to follow

up with as they were new interested folks in joining, and following up with some candidates that hadn't yet responded.

So I think that's a really good point. I just wanted to say that -- which was submitted to you guys. And that's what we have here before you.

And I probably need to make it a little bit bigger in terms of a zoom -- but following the new procedural rules, we have three-year terms, and we looked at staggering those terms for an April expiration. So starting one year out, starting a two-year out, and starting three-year out. So we've assigned those groups A, B, and C to alleviate any confusion between our old groups of one, two, and three.

And then each group is balanced between having three consumptive, three non-consumptive, and one impartial in groups A and B. And then group C has two consumptive representatives, two non-consumptive, and two impartial.

So down below is the category of representation, an indication of their perspective that they're representing, the proposed representative, proposed alternate, and their

proposed group assignment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Excellent. Any questions for Carol?

MARTIN HEFT: Thanks, Jack. If she wants to stop screen sharing, then we can -- no. Thanks.

Thank you.

And if I may? Carol, thank you very much and to, you know, everyone on your committee. You've been doing a great job reviewing everything and providing us with a spreadsheet with the comments and everything on that. Greatly appreciate it.

And I know a lot of hard work went into that, having conversations with you earlier, everything else, you know, for that. So I'm very, you know, pleased with what's been done on this.

Two things; one, just -- I meant they're just more clerical, is for spelling under recreation. Recreation is spelled wrong on the sheet. So if we're going to -- under representative for Jeff Shaw on that.

CAROL HASKINS: Yeah.

MARTIN HEFT: And then I would just also just remove the co-chair titles under the representatives, you know, off the official list if we're going, you know, for approval on that.

CAROL HASKINS: Were they still on?

MARTIN HEFT: And then the only other question I had was just -- and I believe she's already serving, but I didn't see her on the applicant list, was under the water resource protections, Amy Petrus. Is she currently serving, and she just did not reapply, per se?

But I want to make sure we had conversations with her for filling, you know, for the alternate spot, because I didn't see her on the other listing. I believe she's been at meetings and has filled in for you in the past. So I'm just verifying that.

CAROL HASKINS: Yeah, she and I exchanged some e-mails with a, happy to continue serving if need be, but also willing to step aside if there's somebody else really willing and would be able to step up.

MARTIN HEFT: Okay. Great. Thank you very much. I just wanted to confirm, because that was the only name that I didn't see on any of the lists. So I wanted to just confirm that.

But again, thanks for, you know, a great job on all of this. And you know, a thank you to everyone that has, you know, served previously on both this and the implementation workgroup and everything for that, you know, as we've stated in

the past for that.

But I don't have any other questions. I know we have one vacancy for, you know, electric power that we'll still have to seek, and then, you know, potential alternates.

THE CHAIRMAN: Very good. Eric, any comments?

ERIC McPHEE: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. So I will entertain a motion to accept the slate of recommendations from the WPCAG nominating group as presented.

MARTIN HEFT: (Inaudible.)

ERIC McPHEE: I will second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any questions on the motion?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: If not, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

THE COUNCIL: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: The motion is carried. Martin?

Where did Martin go, here?

ALICEA CHARAMUT: Martin disappeared.

CAROL HASKINS: He did.

THE CHAIRMAN: Did we lost Martin?

CAROL HASKINS: Looks like.

Jack, for the purposes of the minutes, I will send you the updated roster based on Martin's suggested edits for correcting the spelling of recreation and removing the co-chairs. And you can send them along to whoever is doing the minutes here for you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Very good. Good. Thank you.

Oh, I just got a text from -- Martin got kicked off Zoom. He's trying to reconnect. So let's just go off the record for a second here.

THE REPORTER: Pausing the record.

(Pause: 1:44 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now we are back on record.

Martin, is it something we said? Or --

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Uh-oh. Can everybody hear me?

ALICEA CHARAMUT: Yes, we can hear you.

Martin appears to be frozen.

DAN LAWRENCE: He's pondering that --

MS. LUPOLI: I'm readmitting him now.

DAN LAWRENCE: -- it's on the other face. It's always

terrifying to have your face frozen.

THE CHAIRMAN: Oh, my goodness.

Martin?

MARTIN HEFT: Yeah, Jack.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are you Okay now?

MARTIN HEFT: No, my Zoom keeps freezing up. I just put it on my phone.

THE CHAIRMAN: Oh, okay. Good. Okay, fine. We can hear you and see you, and all that good stuff. So sorry about that.

MARTIN HEFT: My system keeps freezing up here at the office. So I'm not sure, so.

THE CHAIRMAN: So Martin, would you like to make a nomination for the co-chairs?

MARTIN HEFT: Did we -- well, we have to vote on the advisory group. Don't we?

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, we kind of did when you -- Rob?

THE REPORTER: Yes?

THE CHAIRMAN: Did we get a vote on the advisory group?

THE REPORTER: I'm checking my notes.

MARTIN HEFT: Because I don't think we had a motion before I cut off.

THE REPORTER: I don't think so.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. So make a motion. You're going to make a motion to accept the recommendation of

the nominating committee?

MARTIN HEFT: Sure, yes. I will make a motion that we accept the nomination slate as presented by the nominating committee.

THE CHAIRMAN: A second, Eric?

ERIC McPHEE: I will second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Any questions?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: If not, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

THE COUNCIL: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: The motion is carried.

Now, would you like to make the nomination?

MARTIN HEFT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I would like to make the motion that we appoint as co-chairs for a one-year term, Alicea, you know, keeping the current chairs, Alicea Charamut and Dan Lawrence for a one-year term as co-chairs.

THE CHAIRMAN: And I will second it.

Any questions on the motion?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: If not, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

THE COUNCIL: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Congratulations, Alicea and Dan.

Motion is carried.

DAN LAWRENCE: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right. We're going to go right into the advisory workgroup, Alicea and Dan.

ALICEA CHARAMUT: Go ahead, Dan. I'll let you take this --

THE CHAIRMAN: I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Virginia had her hand up. I just saw her hand.

VIRGINIA de LIMA: Yes. Thank you, Jack. I wanted to just comment for your consideration that, I believe it was Martin's request, this slate was proposed with an April to March term.

As you all know, this is a particularly busy time of year with the legislative session and coming up to the end of the fiscal year, and those kinds of things. And the people on the nominating committee, especially Carol, are fairly overwhelmed at this time of year, and it is just that much of an additional burden for them to be going through and coming up with the slate.

And I just wanted to mention that you might

want to consider returning it to the calendar year with this first term being very short, obviously, just in respect of their time.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. We can discuss -- I'd like to do that when we have Graham here as well. So we can discuss that in the future.

Now we will move to Alicea and Dan.

DAN LAWRENCE: Thank you. So Alicea and I spoke. As you can imagine, our last Water Planning Council advisory group meeting was focused on nominations and working with Carol and the nominating committee to identify people, make sure that we had all the resumes and reviewed everything.

I did actually attend most of the nominating committee just to kind of go through all those as well. So that was the -- everything minus a few updates from our last meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

Alicea, anything to add to that?

ALICEA CHARAMUT: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: No? Okay. Denise also has a meeting today. So for outreach and education, we're going to have -- Ali is going to cover. Please, Ali?

ALI HIBBARD: Good afternoon. The outreach and education workgroup met this morning. We are

discussing --

THE CHAIRMAN: And by the way, I'm very impressed, Ali, that you met this morning and you have minutes to us this afternoon. Thank you.

ALI HIBBARD: Yes, we do. Denise is very efficient.

THE CHAIRMAN: I'm very impressed.

ALI HIBBARD: We are discussing ways to celebrate both the 50th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Week, which is May 5th through 11th.

We're proposing to draft a press release or some type of announcement recognizing Safe Drinking Water Week. We're going to have an update on that over this month as we work out a draft, but if any group is doing something for Safe Drinking Water Week, please reach out to myself or Denise to see if our workgroup can provide support.

That's the update I have.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thanks, Ali. Any questions for Ali?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Next is the conservation pricing rate recovery analysis work Group.

ALICEA CHARAMUT: I'm still working on an alternate date for that. The dates we have been meeting have not been working for me as well as several other people. So we should have another date within the next week that we'll be meeting regularly.

THE CHAIRMAN: It's a busy time for everyone. That's fine.

Margaret, the watershed lands workgroup.

ALICEA CHARAMUT: That would be Rich.

RICH HANRATTY: Mr. Chairman, if you don't mind? Margaret asked me to do this. Rich Hanratty.

So we had our last meeting March 8th, and we had an excellent presentation by Charles Vidich and Nick Trabka from WestCOG. And I think that this will be very useful to the Water Planning Council and the working group going forward.

The presentation was on land use controls to protect public water supply watersheds. And although it was only preliminary -- extremely detailed; they took a look at all the municipalities, a huge amount of work, all the regulations that were in place. And they identified existing zoning techniques, gaps in protection, best zoning practices, and will be

recommending relevant training.

Just a couple of points that jumped out, to me at least. Only 69 -- 63, rather, of the 129 municipalities with public water supply watershed lands even have explicit zoning protections. So there's a definite need for other municipalities to step up, and I think this study is helpful.

Only 24 municipalities have 4 or more criteria for public water supply watershed protections. And there was a very good discussion of best practices in the use of overlay zoning regulations for protection, and they have a few benefits; simplified land use reviews, and it's really one-stop shopping. So all requirements would be in one place. So if we could move towards that across the state, it would benefit everybody.

There were 63 municipalities that identified with explicit watershed protection. So that means there's a number of municipalities that don't have explicit watershed protection. And then they were pointed out that Connecticut General Statute 8-3i requires planning and zoning commissions to notify water utilities of proposed development in watershed areas, and only a handful of

municipalities reference that, even though it's a general statute which does apply to more municipalities. We've become aware of that.

So just an excellent study. It will be sent around. I think it has been already finalized. I'm sure we'll get another look at it. The next land group meeting is June 14 at 9 a.m.

That's my report.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Rich.

Any questions for Rich?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Interagency drought workgroup. Martin, I know we've got a meeting coming up.

MARTIN HEFT: Sure, yes. And I'm actually in the waiting room trying to get back in on my other site if -- whoever has access to that maybe. Thanks. Hold on. Just --

THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah. Laura has access.

MS. LUPOLI: I let him in.

MARTIN HEFT: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: There he is. Okay.

MARTIN HEFT: Thank you. Apologies. I don't know. I had to reboot everything. Apologies.

Yes, we have a interagency drought workgroup meeting this Thursday. Mainly, we will review the drought criteria over the past three months -- but as everyone knows, it's been very wet, especially with more rain coming tonight, over the next couple of days as well.

But we will be also working on our tabletop exercise and working on those details as we continue to monitor, you know, any drought status, especially coming in, you know, coming into spring and then preparing for anything for summer. So we'll continue our work.

But that's a quick, short update for you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

Any questions for Martin?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: If not, on to other business we've got. We're fortunate this afternoon to have Dan Lawrence who's going to give us an update on PFAS. You know there's a lot. You read a lot, hear a lot; legislation, not legislation, state, federal. So Dan's going to put it all in perspective for us, so -- or try to.

DAN LAWRENCE: Can I share my screen?

THE CHAIRMAN: Absolutely.

DAN LAWRENCE: All right. Let's see if we get this correct without messing it up. Can you guys see that okay?

THE CHAIRMAN: Great.

DAN LAWRENCE: All right. Well, thank you very much. It's a topic that I think many of us spend hours and hours on in the water utility side, and today hopefully we'll have an opportunity to get through this presentation.

And I'm sure we'll have many more discussions and many potential more presentations around certain topics around PFAS itself. It is a challenging topic overall, but I do think we'll be able to get through some things today.

So from an agenda standpoint I just wanted to cover a couple of things. I never assume everyone understands everything about PFAS. No one has done, you know, as much digging as maybe I have or others -- and may know more than me for sure, but I want to make sure we set that stage correctly, at least in concept.

I'll talk a little bit about the regulatory timelines, a little bit about community water

systems in Connecticut, and then talk a little bit more about Aquarion's -- our experience right now, potential costs, point of entry, point of view, the system side, funding opportunities, a little bit about the settlements, and then just an FYI on the liability exemptions for PFAS that are going on with it.

So if you have questions, ask as we go or you can wait to the end. That's really up to you. So thank you.

So when you think about PFAS -- and a piece that I really wanted to make sure everyone understands, it's a group of manufactured chemicals. You know they're not -- somebody came up with them. And I have a friend who's a toxicologist that said, every time mankind comes up with something it's not good -- and don't put it in the environment.

So PFAS has been around since the -- really, it was developed in the 1930s, but really put into use in manufacturing in the 1940s; used in the Manhattan Project and many other things in the war.

You know there are thousands of PFAS compounds. And as we think about that, you can

look at it in the 1950s; we have Teflon and Scotchgard, two of probably the biggest things that occurred. And they're still in use today in terms of if it's water repellent, stain repellent, or it defers dirt, it probably has PFAS in it, whether it's a dish, your laundry soap, your shampoo.

It's an amazing amount of things that have been impacted -- or with people contributing PFAS to our environment in that product. So it's fascinating.

Then in the sixties and seventies, you get the AFF firefighting foam containing PFAS and PFOA, which was widely used, and starting in the 1970s. And I think it's good to put this in the context as you think about, you know, I was born in 1970. I know some people are older and younger than me, but you know how long this has been in our environment and it doesn't break down easily.

The most prevalent ones, again, PFOA -- and I'm not going to try to pronounce the long terms. If someone wants to try that for me, they can. And PFAS, for example, is the most commonly used. And those have been phased out for the most part, but they've been replaced in the United States

with other PFAS in recent years -- and GenX, as you may not be familiar with, which is another thing, which in the environment breaks down to PFAS. So, you know, your Gore-Tex jackets and all those fun things.

And again, it just doesn't break down easily. It bioaccumulates in your organs based on toxicology studies. And so it impacts the environment, people, animals, and really everything right now, whether you have a private well or a public water system.

And it actually impacts, again, when you think about -- well, we'll talk about this a little bit later. When you think about who's contributing to the problem and who's just receiving that problem -- right? In like -- and in terms of a product point of view.

So just a little bit on the regulatory timeline. And I'm not going to do a big dive, but just to give you some really high-level points. So in 2009, the EPA issued a lifetime drinking water health advisory of 200 parts per trillion for PFAS and 400 parts per trillion for PFOA, and people often wonder why.

Well, keep in mind the laboratory detection

limit was not what it is today. They couldn't have detected 4 parts per trillion back in 2009. 2016 comes up, and PFOA, PFAS, and drinking water's updated health advisory level of 70 parts per trillion. And then from that point on, there's a little bit of -- if you can keep track of it -- we work in multiple states, and many states ended up issuing between that period of time and today maximum contaminant levels by state level.

New Hampshire did that, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, and a number of others issued the maximum contaminant levels. The Connecticut Department of Public Health issued -- for Connecticut issued drinking water action levels.

And right now, EPA is proposing regulation of 6 PFAS, which at this point, what we understand, we issued a decision in April of 2024. So that's right around the corner. We'll see if that really happens, but that's what they're saying.

And if you go to the regulatory limit table on the bottom, it gives you a view -- and there's a lot of compounds here. But just wanted to run you through that quickly. Again, all in parts per trillion in PPT.

So EPA has PFOA and PFAS in the first two at four. And then the next one is GenX, PFBS, PFBNA, PFHxS, PFHpA, and PFBDA are all part of a hazard index. I'm not going to go through that calculation because I'm not sure I could do it right now, but it's a hazard index combining other PFAS compounds.

Massachusetts is still sitting around 6, 6 PFAS compounds, with a total of 20. New Hampshire has isolated maximum contaminant levels for PFOA, PFAS, PFNA, and PFHxS. So we've been dealing with that, and we'll talk a little bit about that in a little bit.

And then Connecticut, and you can see that covers a very wide range of drinking water health action levels in terms of where they are. So you get that really big -- and this has been part of the conversation around PFAS -- is, what's the right number. Right? And I think that's an interesting one when you think -- basically say that Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, EPA, New York, New Jersey, all use toxicology, yet all come up with very different numbers. That always fascinates me, but I don't know what the right number is.

Obviously, it's important to protect health.

So anyone have any -- I'm going to stop just for a second because I've been talking for a bit. Does anybody have any questions around what's in front of us and where EPA is going, or where Connecticut, or Massachusetts, or New Hampshire may go?

(No response.)

DAN LAWRENCE: Yeah. A lot of numbers, a lot of things to keep track up. So when you think about community water systems in Connecticut -- and I did receive this information from the Department of Health, so it is at least reasonably accurate today if things haven't changed.

So we have 489 community water systems with an estimated population of roughly 2.8 million people in Connecticut. And then you have transient non-community water systems, about 480 of those with an estimated population of about 98,000. And then non-transient, non-community, 1395 systems with an estimated population of about 60,000. And you say, okay. What does that mean?

There's been many, many studies that have

been done that talk about the statistics around the number of water systems that have PFAS in them. And one of the numbers that's floated -- and I think it's -- I have to dig out the study, a couple of ones I was reading -- that some were in the -- that 60 to 70 percent of water systems will have detectable PFAS, not necessarily exceeding a standard, but detectable PFAS. And that somewhere in that, 25 to 45 percent of those systems would require treatment above the four parts per trillion.

I would say being in New England, it is more densely populated. And you look at where PFAS was and still is, the suggestion is that New England will have a higher percentage, potentially. So I just wanted to share.

And if you don't know what a community, non-community, or non-transient non-community is, I put the definitions up. I always find that helpful for myself. Obviously, transient non-community is like schools, office buildings, hospitals, things like that. So not the same people.

Transient non-community is gas stations, campgrounds. Again, where people are there, but

not for more than 60 days a year. And a community water system is what we talk about more regularly, but again I thought it would be worthwhile taking a look at those in terms of how it may be impactful.

So just chatting about Aquarion's experience. So we have, in Connecticut, 69 community water systems and 4 non-transient non-community water systems. Most of those are like the Berkshire and Corporate Park in Brookfield -- in Danbury, excuse me. And then moving up in Oxford they're more commercial parks than anything else.

And so when you look at it, we have 73 systems. We have 47 of our community water systems that had detectable levels of PFAS. So you look at those percentages, that we talked about them before. That kind of makes a little bit of sense.

And then 31 of those systems -- and that's all our community water systems. So that's, whether that's bedrock groundwater, groundwater from a bedrock well or an overburden well, or a surface water treatment plant, you know those are the systems.

So we had 31 of our systems that if the

standard comes in at four parts per trillion for PFOA -- PFAS and PFOA, it would need treatment. It depends on how the rule is written. But then in that we would have -- we had three non-transient non-community systems have detectable levels. And one of those systems needs treatment if the standard stays, stays there.

And so what we did -- and we've been working on this for a while, testing as many know. And so we've come up with a general estimate that will cost us approximately $260 to $280 million. And I can tell you that's a big number for anyone, but one of the things that I think we want to look at is really, where does that number lie?

And so as part of trying to figure out, one, have a good strategy around when we're going to treat, how we're going to treat, but also, you know, how we go about this, and where do -- those numbers of facilities with points of entry.

So what you're looking at right now is not systems, but rather points of entry. So that's, you know, either a surface water treatment plant, that's water coming from a reservoir into the surface water treatment plant into the distribution system, a bedrock well. And we get

the opposite extreme of somewhere, you know, up in 20, 30 gallons a minute or less. And we have just a couple of wells that are bigger than that, or to an overburden or a gravel packed well.

So when you look at this -- and by the way, the picture is our PFAS facility in Hampton, New Hampshire. Those are eight-foot vessels, and that was a garage we were able to repurpose so we didn't have to build a new building, which was nice. But that was put in a few years ago, and it's been active. So we've had some good experience with that.

But if you look at our tiers, we had eight points of entry, or eight treatment points that are greater than eight parts per trillion. Eight -- between six and eight parts per trillion. And then our tier 3 is between 4 and 6 parts per trillion, so you get to 20.

And then when you get to tier four, you start to get into -- between tier three and tier four, we start to see some impact to a couple of our surface water treatment facilities, and that's where the numbers really get large.

But you can see really how tight the numbers are on the parts per trillion side, and how

impactful the regulation will be for the number of points of entry we have to treat.

So you can see that if that standard was raised from 4 parts per trillion -- which I have no idea if this will happen -- but to 5 parts per trillion, there's 15 points of entry that would not require treatment. And you know, those, one of those is a large facility that costs about $50 million to treat because it's a large water treatment plant.

So this is how we've been breaking it down, and this is how we've been going through and trying to make sure, as we started through this process, that we are going after the highest concentrations of PFAS out there in our systems first, and making sure those are addressed more readily.

So any questions on that?

RICH HANRATTY: Yeah. Hey, Dan. Rich. Did you touch on the compliance timeline for, you know, when EPA does set a maximum contaminant level? How long are we all going to have to --

DAN LAWRENCE: So, yeah. I was going to get into that in a second, Rich -- but I can do that now. I don't have a slide on that, but so originally,

when EPA proposed the rule -- and no one knows how it's going to actually end up -- it was going to be a three-year implementation period with the maximum concentration of PFOA and PFAS at four parts per trillion each, plus that hazard index.

So a three-year implementation period, if they do that -- and that's how they implement it, so -- and it comes out in April -- have three years for Aquarion to implement $260 million worth of work, which is obviously not practical.

The lead time on equipment right now -- and this is what comments we made into EPA just to get these vessels that you're looking at -- and those are small vessels. Those are only eight-footers, and they have skids -- is somewhere in the four to eight months right now, if you hit the market correctly.

And then these are carbon-activated filters. So the availability of carbon from a vendor such as Calgon, that is only going to get worse in terms of supply chain. So there's a number of issues. It's something that we've brought up in our comments to EPA. I'm sure others did as well -- that we want to make sure, as a society, I'll say, that the highest concentrations of PFAS

are addressed first. Right?

There's four parts per trillion; Aquarion, Connecticut Water, and everyone is going to work very hard to meet that standard, but I don't think it's going to be feasible just because of supply chain issues and literally lead times on equipment, literally getting all the approvals we need, not just from the Department of Health -- and also getting through funding, which we'll go through as well.

So there's some challenging points there. Again, this slide really says a lot. I mean, if you went to six parts per trillion, which I don't think they will -- they did evaluate five parts per trillion. I think one of the choices the EPA could consider would be to extend the time.

In the past, they've done progressive rules where, you know, for an example, in disinfection byproducts there was a two-stage rule. It's phase one -- and stage one and stage two; you had to do certain amounts in stage one, and then it went down in stage two.

They could do the same thing where if you had above a certain concentration you needed to treat it in the first three years. And then if you're

in a lower concentration, you would treat that in the next few years, and so on. And I think that makes the most sense, because that allows the highest concentrations to be removed, which are the most impactful to people that consume water.

And again, I think the piece to consider is that, not only is it in your drinking water as -- and it's in your drinking water because their septic systems are within the general vicinity. It's coming from the environment, and it's coming from consuming products.

The water systems are what they call a receiving party, which means they have no -- we don't put that in water. That just comes to us.

Does anybody have any questions here?

This is kind of like -- it's a big slide and a lot of -- not a lot of information, but a lot of things to think about, and it talks about how we're trying to approach it. And I'm sure others are doing the same.

(No response.)

DAN LAWRENCE: All right. Let me just move -- we can always go backwards if you have questions later.

So when you think about funding, obviously the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for Connecticut and other states receive quite a bit of money. I think it's around $55 million dollars -- excuse me, billion. In Connecticut, I think, over the five-year window for emerging contaminants -- this is off of memory, so forgive me. It was around $19 million for emerging contaminants, but I could be wrong -- but that number seems to ring true.

So there's some information here that's really technical on the funding side. I think what we wanted to get across is there is opportunities to offset. And we just put a sampling of projects in. The Cedar Heights, and we've -- in a couple of cases, have decided to interconnect systems instead of treatment, and the reason is the concentrations of PFAS were higher. The water quality in general was poor, and the facilities themselves needed upgrades. In general, those are the reasons around these.

So we wanted to make good decisions. So we interconnected our Cedar Heights, which is in Danbury, to our Brookfield system. That is under construction right now. The pipeline is in. The

pump station is under construction. You can see the eligible project costs through the state revolving fund, the subsidy that we receive, and then the offset in funds.

We've been working really hard at trying to find ways to offset costs for our customers and keep the costs down. We interconnected one of our systems in Ridgefield, Craigmoor, into the Ridgefield main system. That's almost done.

Into New Fairfield we have a number of facilities. This actually represents three facilities. Our Renda, Biggs and Oakwood systems, we're able to get that under one program, one loan, slash, grant, and those are treatment. And so we've been working through those three projects, and those are actively in construction as well.

And then our Pleasant View interconnection, we had a system in New Milford called our Pleasant View system, which had a number of issues. One, lack of water supply to degrading wells. We had some high manganese. We had some PFAS. And right surrounding our Pleasant View system is a couple other systems, Dean Heights and our Meadowbrook system. So right now we're in the process of

working through that project, and you can see the costs of that pipeline.

And then also in Mass and New Hampshire -- and just as more for your own benefit, we are continuing pushing forward. Those programs are a little bit different. But Oak Pond is another PFAS treatment project looking at that subsidy.

And then Mill Road, Mill 6 in New Hampshire was something we did a few years ago. That is actually a combination of what they call a groundwater trust loan and grant combined with -- we received ARPA money. And the $81,000 left over we funded that through self -- our own funds. But we were able to almost get that a hundred percent funded, which was that picture you saw before.

So you can see the benefit. I mean, there is more cost to doing these projects as they require a prevailing wage than it would be just, you know, us bidding to local contractors. But we've been able to, you know, offset those costs dramatically and basically get subsidies close to $6.6 million.

So definitely opportunities out there. It is only a five-year program. The construction right now is year one. So if -- one of the challenges that we also presented in our EPA response is, if

you make it a three-year window, people cannot take advantage of this funding, which is what's set out by the President. Right? And asked to at least let us do that.

At least let us have an opportunity to maximize funding. And I imagine the funding will get more and more competitive as more and more people need to do this. Some people are out front, and some people are trying to figure it out. And I'm not sure everyone has even sampled yet in Connecticut their water system, which would be unfortunate.

Any questions on what we're doing versus what's out there?

THE CHAIRMAN: Hey, Dan. What about private wells?

DAN LAWRENCE: Yeah, I have one.

THE CHAIRMAN: This is just the public water supply. Correct?

DAN LAWRENCE: Yeah, this is just public water supply. It's an interesting thing. We did a study in New Hampshire 2016/'17 on private wells. There was a suggestion that a Superfund site was impacting our well field because we had PFAS, the one we treated.

And so we sampled with the New Hampshire

Department of Environmental Services, DES, a number of private wells. And they had really high concentrations and really low concentrations. Really, you know, it has to do with the separation between, you know, your sanitary separation between your septic and your well is 75 feet minimum. That's for bacteria and disinfection, not for PFAS. So you know, if you're in that situation, it's downgradient.

So we saw some really high concentrations and very low ones in the middle of nowhere. So this is all funding. That's a really difficult question right now, because there doesn't seem to be anyone funding the private side. Right? And I'll go through the settlement in a little bit, but -- and I don't know how many people are testing their wells either.

Just remember, it's always said, this -- you know you essentially drink what you put down your sink. So you know, if you're putting certain things down your sink. Right? So I think a lot of private wells -- and again, think about it this way. Most wetlands, most streams, lakes have some level of PFAS in them.

If you have a deep bedrock well, it's

possible you have very low concentrations, as we've seen, but there's no guarantee. It really has to do with where the fracture comes from, but it's definitely a high risk.

I didn't go through how many private wells there are. That's actually in the WUCC plan. And I know the Water Planning Council advisory group, as well as the Water Planning Council has a private well task force -- I'm going to call it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Right.

DAN LAWRENCE: In lieu of a better word at this moment. But it's definitely a concern in how that gets dealt with. But we're trying, and I know others are as well, just to try to offset costs, so.

THE CHAIRMAN: Great. Thank you.

DAN LAWRENCE: Anything else on that one?

(No response.)

DAN LAWRENCE: All right. So just quickly -- and I could spend about nine hours doing this because it's painful, and it's a settlement. So 3M and DuPont, and it just got the DuPont -- excuse me, 3M just got settled yesterday, finally getting approved.

So the settlements for 3M and DuPont; 3M is 10.3 to 12 and a half billion, DuPont is roughly 1.2 billion, and the settlement amounts are separated into two phases. So there's lots of details, but just keep in mind it's two phases.

So phase one eligibility for 3M community water systems with PFAS detected before June 23, 2023. So that's community water systems, not transient non-community. You can see below that transient non-community, the non-transient non-community are serving less than 3,000 -- are excluded, serving less than 3300 people are excluded. So your basic coffee shop, Dunkin' Donuts, school, they're most likely excluded from any recovery out of this from the 3M side.

And then phase two eligibility is community water systems to test under UCMR5, which is the emerging contaminant sampling that's going on right now through EPA, or they serve more than 3300 people.

So basically, again if you have a small community water system, you didn't test for PFAS prior to June 23, and you have under 3300 people, you're probably -- you're not eligible for this settlement. And so it's some pretty specific

rules.

And then obviously, DuPont has similar rules, but different. They're not exactly the same settlements, which really doesn't make any sense to me personally, but that's just the way it's done and we can't control the courts and the lawyers in that regard.

So the opt-out dates are shown. There is some secondary dates that I did not look at that I suppose that you can opt back in. I know some people -- a lot of people were opting out of the DuPont settlement because of the low value, that they now are trying to opt back in, and I guess there's some place to do that.

And I did this yesterday -- so I didn't have this, but 3M's submission date is 60 days from their final decision. And DuPont is the same. Fortunately, they've combined the submittals to a certain degree online. So I'm going to go through one more piece on this. So that's kind of the framework of that, of the settlement.

And then you have the evaluating the potential cost recovery. And I don't have all the information, trust me, but there's a table down below. But basically, what takes into account

this is by source, not by system, and not by point of entry. So if you have a well field, for example, this is source to source. It's a well to well.

So if you have four wells, you actually have to have flow data and PFAS data for each well. That's how this settlement is done. And then you take into account, again, the daily flow and the max daily flow rate from 2013 to 2022, which means you have to have that data as well in some level of source and explanation. And then you have to have PFAS data as well, as we talked about, and lab results.

PFAS is -- some of these calculations they make you do -- I'll be honest, for those of us who are logical, you don't want to look at this. The total daily flow one is hysterical. It's the average of the three highest average daily flows plus the max daily flow plus the square root of something else. And I was like, there's no logic in that -- but you know, it is what it is.

So you take those, and this is what was given out to everybody and sent to everybody. And it said, okay. Here's your flow rate. Here's your PFAS score, which, again, is a little convoluted.

And I don't want to get into that, but -- and you can follow this simple table to say, you know, if I had a 1500 GPM well at 50, you know, parts -- a PFAS score of 50, I'm eligible for, like, $1.1 million.

So Aquarion looked at this. We went through all of our systems, and we think that somewhere we'll get around 20 percent or 20 cents on the dollar. And you say, well, that doesn't sound tremendously good, but we want to get relief for our customers quickly. And if we went out on this on our own, we could be looking at a decade or so to try to get recovery on these systems.

So that's the choice that we've made and where we think we'll land. We're hoping to be higher than 20 percent on the dollar, but that's what we're hoping. And again, the settlement is based on how many people actually participate and those who do not. So that's the combined.

I did not include the DuPont chart, because their chart is different. So any questions on the settlement? And I gave the abbreviated version. It's very complex and painful, like every other law thing.

Any questions on the settlement and sort of

how Aquarion approached it? Others are approaching it differently, and you can't, like you know, judge anyone in their decisions. A lot of lawyers had a lot of advice to be giving.

(No response.)

DAN LAWRENCE: So that's kind of where -- so basically, we've been working through all the forms. And you have to have your chain of custodies, your lab reports, and a lot of information per well.

So it's quite the effort to put in. We've been working on it gradually, so that we'll be prepared to submit timely. So hopefully, if anybody wants to do this, you're not waiting too long, because it's extensive.

And then just for an FYI, really this is coming up. Right? As you think about -- again, let's jump down to the middle here, passive receivers of PFAS. So "passive receivers," which is a legal term, water and wastewater utilities are entities that do not contribute to PFAS contamination and merely receive materials that contain PFAS.

So utilities are vulnerable to CERCLA's

liability due to their role in receiving, filtering, and disposing of PFAS. So EPA's proposal is to designate PFOA and PFAS as a hazardous substance under CERCLA, the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act.

So that designation creates liability for current and future owners and operation generators, transporters, and other parties. So that would put a wastewater utility that receives, you know, contaminated PFAS water or a drinking water utility that basically is taking water out of the ground, and they did not put the PFAS there, into a situation where they would become liable for all of those things.

So I want you to think about a couple of things in this regard. So we do rehabilitation of wells. Right? That water is usually just put on the ground, you know, safely because it's drinking water. Right? Well, if it has PFAS in it, and there's no CERCLA liability exemption, then that will have to be dealt different. Flushing -- right?

Even if you meet the standard for the MCL, maximum contaminant level for EPA, they could

still find you liable under CERCLA. So there's a liability exemption kind of ringing around the US Senate. That's 14-30. I found this, I read it. To say I understand federal bills is a far stretch; I'll be honest with you, but there is the Water System PFAS Liability Protection Act. Water systems -- it covers a very large -- a large piece.

So this is just more general information around this liability piece that's kind of hindering -- that's lingering out there right now. I know some states have been trying to address it. Some haven't, but it really comes down, as Rich Hanratty and I were discussing, through the federal side of this up at -- with CERCLA is where it really needs to happen.

So that's, you know, just wanted to give everyone an overview. I didn't want to take too long. So you can obviously talk about some of these topics individually for hours. So hopefully that you got a good overview of kind of what/where it is doing and how it might impact.

So if -- the only thing I wanted to leave you with, when you think about what Aquarion is spending -- and Rich, I don't know if you know

where Connecticut Water is or you want to share that, but when you look at this number of water systems in Connecticut with the potential of, as I said that data, you know, even 40 -- 30 to 40 percent of them being impacted and what those dollars might look like, it's significant. And it's something that has to be considered.

In order to assess that correctly, you would need to know every point of entry of every system, the PFAS concentration. Right? And I know the Department of Public Health would have some of that information, but it's a big -- right? And then establish some general cost ranges around those things, which some of the consultants have some things they've created based on sort of concentration and capacity.

But I can tell you the costs dramatically are affected by whether you have a building or if you don't have a building, whether you have to treat for manganese or other things before you treat. So a lot of implications on that side.

So really just open up for questions now as I flip to something else. So I'll stop sharing.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dan. A really excellent presentation. And it's something that we're

certainly going to have to face in the future and are facing now. And it's going to, like everything else, it's going to boil down to dollars and cents, unfortunately.

DAN LAWRENCE: Yeah.

THE CHAIRMAN: So any questions for Dan? And we'll probably make this a regular part. I see Kathy. I see a question, Kathy.

KATHY CZEPIEL: Yeah, Dan, could you -- thank you. This was really informative.

Could you tell us again what that federal bill in the Senate is, what the number is?

DAN LAWRENCE: Yeah. Hang on a second.

It's S.1430. That's the way I found it.

KATHY CZEPIEL: 1430? Okay. Thank you.

DAN LAWRENCE: Yeah. If you can't find it, send me a note. I can dig it out again. I was doing research on it for a number of reasons.

KATHY CZEPIEL: Great. Thanks. Appreciate it.

DAN LAWRENCE: Yeah.

RICH HANRATTY: Yeah, and I'd just like to point out that I think on that bill there was the first congressional hearing on the topic where a number of experts testified just a few weeks ago on a CERCLA liability issue.

So it's alive in DC -- but DC is so dysfunctional, who knows what's going to happen.

THE CHAIRMAN: Virginia?

VIRGINIA de LIMA: Dan, is there any benefit of scaling something up in terms of the treatment? If you had two separate sites that were reasonably close to each other, or even another site of a different water company, is it worth exploring sharing the responsibility for that treatment and combining it?

So is, you know, is there any -- is it more efficient if you have a larger scale program?

DAN LAWRENCE: Yeah, so thanks, Virginia. I'll answer that in three different ways quickly. So in our New Hampshire system, that one we showed you, a project we did ahead of the treatment is we combined our four well fields. We had four points of entry, combined them into one.

Instead of having four treatment facilities, we have one chemical and one PFAS treatment facility. So we did that.

It really depends on the distance between them. We've done that in Simsbury. Never contemplated doing it with two different water companies. That's an interesting one for me, but

it definitely -- and what it really -- that's one of the reasons we're interconnecting some of these small systems as well. The cost affordability to put a PFAS facility at a really small facility, I mean, normally you end up building another building.

These vessels, you're going to have a building that's at least 20, 30 feet high because the vessels are vertical, some of the larger facilities. So if you're treating closer to 1 million gallons per day, they could be 10 or 12 feet, just the vessel, and you'll have multiple ones. So you have quite the large building.

So we are looking at all those scenarios as we go through, but I have not looked at joining. We have looked at the possibility of getting water from somebody else who has clean water in the short term to make sure that we can get things done.

VIRGINIA de LIMA: Is there any point-of-use treatment?

DAN LAWRENCE: There are some filters that claim that they can treat PFAS. Reverse osmosis seems to be -- or claimed to do that. I have not tried it personally. Just telling you what's out there.

So you know, put -- I mean, again, skin

absorption is -- just from reading the toxicology studies, is kind of on the low side. Like, so if you have PFAS in your water, you're swimming, you're taking a shower, it's supposedly a low absorption.

So really, it would be really just what you're drinking if you had it in your private well. That seems to be, right now, the one process that seems to work. Again, haven't tested it, haven't tried it, but that seems to be what could happen.

You could also do a granulated activated carbon system, small, in your basement, just like a water treatment. Or ion exchange, not like water softening, but a similar concept. Those all would have some -- depending on how much water you use, obviously.

VIRGINIA de LIMA: Okay. Thank you.

DAN LAWRENCE: You're welcome.

THE CHAIRMAN: Don Morrissey, and then Eric McPhee.

DON MORRISSEY: Oh, hey. Thank you. Just a couple of points, I think, in terms of reinforcing some of what Dan was saying. I think the perspective is so important when we think about PFAS, or certainly when I think about PFAS.

You know, Dan had shared earlier for Aquarion, you know, our estimates are somewhere around 260 to 280 million. If you think about our investment that we have, what our investment is across the state of Connecticut right now, it's about 1.2 billion. So if you think about what that 1.2 billion is doing, it's, you know, 10, you know, surface water treatment plants, a hundred pump stations, hundreds of well fields, 3500 or 3700 miles of water main.

And addressing this one issue of PFAS, at the number that I just described, 260 to 280 million, that's about 22 percent of the total investment, and you think about what all that other infrastructure is doing in terms of bringing it from source to tap.

So I think Dan was, you know, laying out some context in terms of what it means for the entire state, but I think it's important to kind of stay grounded, because it's so easy to almost become numb to the sheer magnitude of some of the figures as they're getting bantered about. But I wanted to offer that.

The other piece, I think, Dan, you know you had shown how Aquarian has kind of stratified it

in terms of the four tiers based upon -- depending upon where the ultimate standard is set. And you know, with the 4 PPT, what's driving that 260 to 280 million-dollar number.

But the sheer sensitivity to that, in the event that the standard would raise from four to six, the impact of that on the cap-ex profile, it's almost $100 million. So it's a big, big figure, and for an issue that's still emerging and evolving so much, it's something that we certainly have, you know, our eye closely watching.

And I know, you know, Rich in Connecticut Water and others in the industry are closely watching this. And because we realize that, hey, this is going to cost money. It's going to impact the customer's wallet and affordability.

So that's why it is so important to avail ourselves of whatever funding is available to try to offset some of those, those required investments. So you know, thanks for the opportunity for saying a few words, Jack. I just wanted to kind of reinforce some of the things that Dan had mentioned earlier.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thanks, Don.

Eric?

ERIC McPHEE: Well, first, let the record reflect I accidentally hit the clap button instead of the hand raise button. I wasn't actually clapping.

I had a question about -- thanks, Dan. This is a great presentation. Just a quick question about disposal. You know, you talked about some of the CERCLA implications. What are the implications of disposal?

Is the nation ready to have to dispose of all the spent material, and how does that factor into the cost? What are expectations for disposal?

DAN LAWRENCE: So there's a couple of things to consider. So granular activated carbon gets actually -- we'll call it burned. If you will, they burn off the material. Right?

So hopefully on the -- and if you look out in our regulations -- and I didn't add this, but there is no real air regulations. A couple of states have, you know, EPA studying it, trying to figure it out. So granulated activated carbon is basically regenerated, for all intents and purposes.

You can re-reuse your own carbon, or you can get more carbon and get somebody else's regenerated carbon, or you can get fresh carbon.

Those are your choices.

So that right now is not affected, and I don't think would be affected by CERCLA, because that is being recycled for all intents and purposes, but they could rule on that as well. And part of the challenge is, like, right now -- and it's been proven -- again, way too much information in my head these days -- but that properties next to PFAS generating manufacturing facilities have been impacted by air dispersion.

So if you're near an incinerator, which we have a facility in another state that was -- we believe is impacted by waste facility emissions into water. So you think about that. Right?

So there is going to need to be some air permitting, but much like with incinerators, that that captures that. And so by definition, if I'm subject to CERCLA, I am subject to that air permit and its disposal.

Ion exchange, which is the next most common treatment methodology, it does get disposed in a landfill right now. There is some -- so that would give you instant liability to that disposal. There is a vendor -- and I haven't seen this, but it's supposedly creating, kind of like a nuclear

waste, encapsulate it. So it can't -- when you throw it away, you encapsulate it -- but you would still be subject to CERCLA liability without an exemption.

A bigger concern really is, you know, really well fuels themselves, flushing, all those, like, things that you do every day. And would you be subject to, you know, CERCLA liability for flushing a hydrant?

So if you had four parts per trillion, CERCLA liability may not necessarily fall along with the maximum contaminant level. They could actually cite you. So that's kind of one of the bigger concerns, if that makes some sense.

But the disposal side, long term it's like any other hazardous waste. Right? I mean, PFAS will be a CERCLA waste. It's just about what's going to get exempted from that. So hopefully I answered your question.

ERIC McPHEE: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other questions for Dan?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: To be continued, Dan, I would say.

Wouldn't you?

DAN LAWRENCE: Oh, yeah. We could take all those topics and round them again. So maybe you guys can chat and we can, on the industry side, can think about how to move this forward. Or you know, a lot of things going on.

And again, the rule should be out in a couple of weeks. So that will be interesting to see where that lands. Hopefully they'll give us a little -- hopefully it will give us a little more time or move that number a little bit temporarily.

So thank you very much.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much for a great presentation. We appreciate it.

DAN LAWRENCE: You're welcome.

THE CHAIRMAN: We're going to move on to public comment. Any public comment?

Alicea?

ALICEA CHARAMUT: Yeah, I was clapping.

THE CHAIRMAN: Oh, Ali -- Dan, you've got a lot of people clapping for you this afternoon.

DAN LAWRENCE: Eric accidentally clapped, so.

ALICEA CHARAMUT: It was on purpose, Dan.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other public comment?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: If not, our next meeting will be on the second Tuesday, which will be May 14, 2024.

And if there's no other business to come before us, I thank you all for your participation this afternoon. We covered a lot of ground.

And with that, I will entertain a motion to adjourn.

MARTIN HEFT: So moved.

ERIC McPHEE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: All those in favor?

THE COUNCIL: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Meeting is adjourned. Thank you all and have a good afternoon, everyone. Appreciate your support.

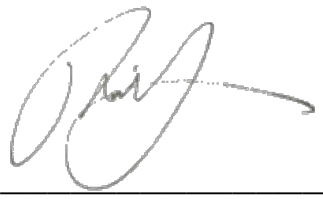
MARTIN HEFT: Thanks all.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

(End: 2:39 p.m.)

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 60 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original verbatim notes taken of the Regular Meeting of the Water Planning Council, which was held before JOHN W. BETKOSKI, III, CHAIRMAN, and PURA VICE-CHAIRMAN, via teleconference, on April 2, 2024.



Robert G. Dixon, CVR-M #857

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 6/30/2025

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VOTES TAKEN
(Unanimous Approval)

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION