Pennsylvania American Water Investment and Expertise Restores Customer Confidence in Greene County Drinking Water System that Was Out of Regulatory Compliance for 10+Years

Nearly $2 million invested to enhance service quality and reliability for East Dunkard Water Authority customers in the first year as court-appointed receiver

PITTSBURGH, Pa. (Feb. 24, 2025): One year after being appointed receiver of the troubled East Dunkard Water Authority (EDWA), Pennsylvania American Water announced today a series of investments totaling $1.95 million that have enhanced the plant and restored customer confidence in the water system located south of Pittsburgh in Greene County. The system's drinking water quality and reliability have been out of regulatory compliance every year since 2014.

"Like so many of the water systems we acquire across Pennsylvania, East Dunkard Water Authority was in rough shape and largely out of compliance with drinking water regulations," said Justin Ladner, president of Pennsylvania American Water. "In just one year as the receiver, our team has significantly improved water quality for customers. We take pride in these achievements, all aimed at providing residents with safe and reliable drinking water."

Pennsylvania American Water assumed operations following a Commonwealth Court-ordered receivership placed on Feb. 8, 2024. This decision was prompted by numerous citations issued to EDWA by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PaDEP) during the previous two years for failing to have a certified operator and for violations leading to water treatment breakdowns.

Between Jan. 1, 2023, and Feb. 8, 2024, PaDEP issued 76 Notices of Violation (NOV) to EDWA. Pennsylvania American Water has resolved all previous open violations, and overall water quality and reliability have significantly improved.

Pennsylvania State Senator Cameron Bartolotta, representing the EDWA service area, has witnessed the system and water quality improvements firsthand. "Pennsylvania American Water has brought this system back into compliance and, more importantly, restored customer confidence in receiving safe and reliable drinking water. We appreciate their commitment to this community."

Pennsylvania American Water is expected to purchase EDWA's system assets, which include 230 miles of water main, booster stations, fire hydrants and storage tanks. The company signed an agreement in July 2023 and expects to close the deal by mid-2025.

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