

PRESS RELEASE

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Lehigh County Authority and Emmaus Borough complete water transaction

About 400 property owners just outside the Borough of Emmaus have a new water service provider today. In an agreement that marks the beginning of a new cooperative venture between the water utilities, Lehigh County Authority (LCA) acquired customer accounts and portions of the borough's water system that lie outside the borough boundary, in Lower Macungie, Upper Milford and Salisbury townships.

The deal was developed last year after the borough sought solutions to its water system's financial needs. By transferring the out-of-borough customers to Lehigh County Authority, the borough retains control of its own water system and can adjust in-borough water rates as necessary, while customers who live outside the borough will be represented by LCA in all matters related to their water service.

Additional benefits of this agreement include provisions for interconnections between the borough's water system and the LCA's existing water system that serves about 16,000 homes and business in central Lehigh County. Interconnections will be sought to provide

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emergency supply and additional sharing of resources and enhancements to water pressure and fire protection in both systems.

In a joint letter to the affected customers, dated February 22, LCA and the Borough of Emmaus announced the agreement and explained that LCA would hold the customers' current rates steady for a period of two years. Customers' water supply, pressure and water quality should remain the same, but beginning today they should contact LCA at 610-398-1444 for service inquiries and billing questions.

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MEDIA NOTES

- A copy of the above-referenced customer notice is included.
- All statements made in this press release may be attributed to Aurel Arndt, LCA's general manager.
- LCA is a nonprofit municipal authority serving approximately 17,000 water customers in 13 municipalities in Lehigh and Northampton counties. LCA provides municipal wastewater collection services to 10 municipalities in western Lehigh County and individual sewer service to roughly 1,200 customers in four municipalities.