



Lehigh County Authority

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S T A T E M E N T

December 11, 2008, 1:00 p.m.

Aurel Arndt, General Manager, Lehigh County Authority

RE: Lehigh County Authority / City of Allentown – Long-Term Water Supply Arrangement

- First, I would like to express Lehigh County Authority's sincere appreciation for the hard work of all the many individuals and organizations who assisted LCA, the County and the City of Allentown in coming to you today with good news about a long-term water supply arrangement to meet the needs of both LCA customers and the City.
- County Executive Cunningham and his staff, Mayor Pawlowski, LCA's Board of Directors, and Renew Lehigh Valley have all been working on this for a long time, and this work has resulted in a general agreement that provides the basis for a long-term partnership between LCA and the City for water supply planning for our region.
- In addition, LCA's employees and the city's water resources staff have provided a considerable amount of time and support for this project through their careful research of the issues, brainstorming on options that would make this arrangement work to the benefit of both parties, and providing the much-needed technical resources that are required to make sure this arrangement will be successful.
- Finally, the support and patience offered by our customers is truly appreciated. All the constructive and supportive feedback we have received from LCA customers over the past few weeks and months has helped us to maintain our focus on the most important issue at hand, which is providing the high level of service, quality and affordability all Lehigh County residents should expect from their water supplier.

- This announcement today marks the beginning of a long-term water supply arrangement between LCA and the City. In light of this very positive news today, we are also hopeful that our relationship with the City will grow and strengthen, building upon this foundation for other cooperative arrangements. In particular LCA looks forward to continuing to work with the City on our future wastewater needs, as well as other regional approaches to water and wastewater service.

- To celebrate this good news, I would like to propose a toast, using LCA's 40th anniversary edition water glasses filled with Allentown's finest drinking water. Today we are toasting the progress we have made to build positive relationships between the City of Allentown, LCA, the County of Lehigh and the community at large as we continue this dialog about water supply planning for our future. As this LCA glass is filled with Allentown's water, we look forward to the day in the not-so-distant future when LCA's pipes will also be flowing with Allentown's water to meet our community's needs.