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# WUC

Water Utility Council of the  
PA-Section, American Water  
Works Association (PA-AWWA)



## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

From Milliron & Goodman Government Relations, LLC.

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### Gov. Wolf: PA Receives \$240 Million to Improve Water Infrastructure

On September 20, 2022, Governor Tom Wolf announced that Pennsylvania was awarded \$240 million for water infrastructure improvements by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The funding, which will help communities across Pennsylvania access clean drinking water, improve wastewater treatment, clean up pollution, protect the environment and increase disaster resilience, was made possible through President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

"Pennsylvanians need and deserve clean, safe water," said Gov. Wolf. "This is a historic investment in public health, the environment and storm and disaster preparedness. With this money, Pennsylvania can help guarantee the safety of our drinking water, improve wastewater treatment and help our stormwater system cope with the increased damage from storms worsened by climate change.

"Thank you to President Biden and all of the federal lawmakers who advocated for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The investments you are making in Pennsylvania will improve quality of life for our residents and help build a brighter future for our commonwealth."

The \$240 million investment will be distributed by PENNVEST. This funding supplements the \$67 million already awarded to Pennsylvania in fiscal year 2022 for its Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds.

Gov. Wolf has served for two terms as a leader consistently at work for the people of Pennsylvania. Learn more about how his **Priorities for Pennsylvania** <https://www.governor.pa.gov/priorities/> have fueled the commonwealth's comeback, leaving Pennsylvania in a much better place than when he arrived.

Source: Governor Wolf's Press Office, 9/20/2022

### Gov. Wolf Announces \$18.2 Million in New Funding for 130 Projects to Improve Infrastructure, Enhance Community Development, and Protect the Environment

On September 20, 2022, Governor Tom Wolf announced 130 new project approvals through the **Commonwealth Financing Authority** <https://dced.pa.gov/programs-funding/commonwealth-financing-authority-cfa/> (CFA) for environmental and infrastructure projects across Pennsylvania.

"These projects will improve communities and enhance the quality of life for Pennsylvanians," said Gov. Wolf. "They are the kind of improvements and upgrades that continue to make our commonwealth a truly great place to live, work and play."

The 130 Act 13 projects approved today are in 40 counties. The total funding amount is more than \$18.2 million.

The projects are designated for specific initiatives as follows:

**Flood Mitigation:** ten projects approved; \$2,401,281 total

**Greenways, Trails and Recreation:** 94 projects approved; \$12,219,569 total

**Sewage Facilities:** four projects approved; \$73,830 total

**Orphan or Abandoned Well Plugging:** one project approved; \$150,000 total

**Watershed Restoration and Protection:** 21 projects approved; \$3,407,495 total

A complete list of the **approved Act 13 projects** can be found online

[https://dced.pa.gov/download/Approved%20Projects%202022-09-20%E2%80%93%20Act%2013%20Programs/?wpdmdl=67196](https://dced.pa.gov/download/Approved%20Projects%202022-09-20%20%E2%80%93%20Act%2013%20Programs/?wpdmdl=67196). They're listed in bold and dated 9/20/22.

For more information on the CFA, visit the **Department of Community and Economic Development** <https://www.dced.pa.gov/>.

**Source:** Governor Wolf Press Release, 9/20/2022

## SRBC Revises Two Regulatory Compliance Policies

**T**he Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) has revised two regulatory compliance policies: the Policy and

Guidance Statement for the Settlement of Civil Penalties/Enforcement Actions and the SRBC Civil Penalty Matrix. The documents were approved by Commissioners at a quarterly business meeting held in Baltimore on September 15th, 2022.

The SRBC has authority to issue orders, investigate possible infractions, assess penalties and enter into settlement agreements related to regulated water withdrawals and consumptive use. The **updated policy**

<https://www.srbc.net/regulatory/policies-guidance/docs/settlement-civil-penalties-enforcement-2022-01.pdf> and **matrix**

<https://www.srbc.net/regulatory/policies-guidance/docs/civil-penalty-matrix-2022-02.pdf> are designed to make this process more transparent.

The guidelines also now reflect the Commission's commitment to environmental justice areas and communities, ensuring that those communities are provided additional protection from any environmental harm. Impacts to environmental justice areas and communities will be considered as relevant and important factors in assessing alleged violations.

The Commission strives to engage in a process that generates penalty terms and financial settlement amounts that fairly reflect the scope of the violation committed, deter future violations, mitigate any adverse environmental impacts and educate both the violator and the public.

It has been more than 20 years since either policy was updated. **Public comment** <https://www.srbc.net/regulatory/policies-guidance/docs/civil-penalty-comment-response.pdf> and oral testimony were accepted prior to the adoptions. An **informal webinar** <https://mdw.srbc.net/proposed-policy-penalties-enforcement-webinar/> was held on July 28th.

The policy and matrix are available in the Commission's **Public Reference Manual** <https://www.srbc.net/our-work/public-reference-manual/>.

**Source:** SRBC Press Release, 9/20/2022

# Delaware River Basin Commission's Pamela Bush Honored by Water Resources Experts

*The DRBC received special recognition for work on Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)*

**T**he Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) and its associate general counsel, Pamela Bush, were recognized for significant contributions to sound water resource management by the Water Resources Association of the Delaware River Basin (WRA DRB) at an awards ceremony yesterday.

Bush was honored by the group with an individual award for her significant contributions to public policy and commitment to improving connections between people and the environment over her 23 years with the DRBC.

“What an absolute honor to be recognized for the teamwork and collaboration that made projects like Special Protection Waters and PCB reductions successful. There’s more we must do to steward our shared waters, and I look forward to continued collaboration with my colleagues, co-regulators and stakeholders,” Bush said.

Steve Tambini, the DRBC’s Executive Director, remarked, “Pam’s contributions to managing, protecting and improving our shared water resources have been, and continue to, be significant, measurable and remarkable. Throughout her career, she has applied diverse legal, technical and relationship skills to provide lasting policy solutions to some of the Basin’s most difficult water resource challenges.”

The DRBC also received an innovation and collaboration award from WRA DRB for its groundbreaking work to improve water quality in the Delaware River Estuary. The DRBC’s implementation of pollutant minimization plans and other practical control measures have resulted in significant and measurable reductions in PCB pollution loads to the Delaware River Estuary. In

2018, fish consumption advisories issued by the states of New Jersey and Delaware for the **Delaware River Estuary and Bay** [https://www.nj.gov/dep/newsrel/2018/18\\_0015.htm](https://www.nj.gov/dep/newsrel/2018/18_0015.htm) were eased due to lower concentrations of PCBs in fish tissue.

Skelly Holmbeck, WRA DRB’s Executive Director, said, “We honor organizations, projects and individuals who lead, inspire and innovate. The work by Pam Bush and the entire DRBC staff have left an enduring mark on the health of our watershed.”

For more information on the **DRBC’s role in managing PCBs** please visit: <https://www.nj.gov/drbc/programs/quality/pcb.html>.

Additional awardees can be viewed at the **WRA DRB website**: <https://www.wradrb.org/recognition-dinner/program>.

The DRBC is a federal/interstate government agency created in 1961 by concurrent compact legislation, marking the first time that the federal government and a group of states joined together as equal partners in a river basin planning, development and regulatory agency. The five Commission members are the governors of the Basin states (Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania) and the commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ North Atlantic Division, who represents the federal government.

To learn more about the Commission, please visit [www.drbc.gov](http://www.drbc.gov).

**Source:** DRBC Press Release, 9/22/2022

## PUC Rulemaking – Diversity Reporting of Major Jurisdictional Utilities

**T**he Public Utility Commission amended Pennsylvania Code to require utility companies to conform to the commission’s diversity policy statement, which requires companies to maintain a diverse workforce and supply chain and submit diversity reports to PUC,

effective immediately. The public comment period has concluded. The contact persons for this rulemaking are Joseph P. Cardinale, Jr., assistant counsel, [jcardinale@pa.gov](mailto:jcardinale@pa.gov), and Rhonda L. Daviston, assistant counsel, [rdaviston@pa.gov](mailto:rdaviston@pa.gov). Additional information is available on the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

**Source:** Pennsylvania Bulletin, 9/17/2022  
<https://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/Display/pabull?file=/secure/pabulletin/data/vol52/52-38/1417.html>

## October EQB Meeting Rescheduled

**T**he Environmental Quality Board rescheduled its October 18, 2022 meeting to 9 a.m. Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at the Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA. Information on how to join the meeting remotely, as well as agenda and meeting materials, will be available on the **board's webpage** at <https://www.dep.pa.gov/PublicParticipation/EnvironmentalQuality/Pages/default.aspx>.

Questions concerning the October 12, 2022, meeting can be directed to Laura Griffin at [laurgriffi@pa.gov](mailto:laurgriffi@pa.gov) or (717) 772-3277.

**Source:** Pennsylvania Bulletin, 9/24/2022  
<http://pacodeandbulletin.gov/Display/pabull?file=/secure/pabulletin/data/vol52/52-39/1488.html>

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