

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

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Docket No. 20210907 Approval Date: September 17, 2021

SELINSGROVE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Groundwater Withdrawals (30-Day Averages) of 0.465 mgd from Well 3 and 0.707 mgd from Well 4, and Total System Withdrawal Limit (30-Day Average) of 0.860 mgd

Section 1. Approval

After review of the record, including the technical findings of Susquehanna River Basin Commission (Commission) staff, the Commission has determined that no significant adverse impacts are anticipated by the operation of this project as described and conditioned herein, the project is physically feasible, and does not conflict with or adversely affect the Commission's Comprehensive Plan. Accordingly, the Commission hereby approves the project described herein in accordance with the conditions set forth below.

The project sponsor maintains and operates a public water supply system that includes five wells (Wells 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5), all of which are incorporated into the total system limit. Based on information provided by the project sponsor, no other sources are operated by the project.

The Commission previously approved the 30-day average withdrawal of 1.000 million gallons per day (mgd) from Well 4 under Commission Docket No. 19910904. The project sponsor submitted a groundwater renewal application for Well 4 requesting approval to withdraw 0.707 mgd. The project sponsor submitted a groundwater withdrawal application for Well 3 requesting approval to withdraw 0.465 mgd from Well 3. This approval authorizes continued withdrawals at the requested rates, and maintains the total system limit established under Commission Docket No. 19950501 for withdrawals from Well 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 to be sufficient to meet the 15-year projected demand through 2036 as determined by Commission staff considering historical use and growth within both the project sponsor's service area and the portion of Penn Township supplied by the project sponsor.

Should demand exceed the total system limit established herein, the project sponsor may request a minor modification in accordance with 18 CFR § 806.18(c)(7) to increase the total system limit, as the total system limit was established considering the 15-year projected demand.

Commission staff has coordinated with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) during review of this project.

Section 2. Project Information

Information concerning the project sponsor, water use type, and location are set forth in the table below.

Project Information				
Project Sponsor: Selinsgrove Municipal Authority				
Approval Type:	Groundwater Withdrawal			
Past Docket No.: 19910904				
Authorized Water Use Purpose:	Public Water Supply			
Municipality:	Borough of Selinsgrove and Penn Township			
County:	Snyder County			
State:	Pennsylvania			

Section 3. Source Information

Information concerning the sources of water from which the withdrawals will be made is set forth in the table below.

Source Information				
Withdrawal Type:	Groundwater			
Approved Sources:	Wells 3 and 4			
Subbasin:	Lower Susquehanna			
Watershed Boundary Dataset (WBD):	0205030104 (Penns Creek)			
Withdrawal Location (degrees)*:	Lat:	Long:		
Special Flow Protection Required:	No			
* Specific location information concerning discrete water-related project features has been withheld for security reasons.				

Section 4. Aquifer Testing

The project sponsor requested that the constant-rate aquifer testing required by 18 CFR § 806.12 for groundwater withdrawals be waived. The project sponsor provided the required hydrogeologic setting information, groundwater availability estimates, results of operational testing, results of historical aquifer testing, and historical withdrawal and groundwater elevation data for Wells 3 and 4. Commission staff determined that the withdrawals from Wells 3 and 4 at the requested withdrawal rates should not cause permanent loss of aquifer storage, render competing supplies unreliable, or cause adverse impacts to the water resources of the basin. Pursuant to Commission Resolution Nos. 2013-11 and 2015-06, the Executive Director approved the waiver of the aquifer testing requirements of 18 CFR § 806.12 on August 10, 2021.

The provided groundwater availability analysis for Well 4 indicated that the approved quantity for Well 5 was not included. Because Wells 4 and 5 are within the same contributing

groundwater basin, and groundwater utilization for the requested quantity for Well 4 during a 1-in-10-year drought is 98 percent, sufficient resources are not available to support concurrent withdrawals from both wells. Therefore, staff recommends that Well 4 be conditioned such that Well 4 cannot be operated concurrently with Well 5, in accordance with Special Condition 23.

Section 5. Approved Withdrawal Quantities and Limitations

The withdrawals approved hereunder are subject to the quantitative limits and restrictions set forth in the table below.

Approved Withdrawal Quantities and Limitations				
	Well 3	Well 4		
30-Day Average Withdrawal (mgd):	0.465	0.707		
Maximum Instantaneous Withdrawal Rate (gpm) (Not to Exceed):	370	560		
Peak Day Withdrawal (mgd):	0.532	0.806		
Total System Withdrawal Limit – Wells 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 (30-Day Average) (mgd):	0.860			
gpm – gallons per minute	•			

The withdrawals are also subject to all other conditions set forth in this docket approval.

Section 6. Existing Approved Withdrawals

Quantities applicable to the existing approved withdrawals are listed in the table below.

Existing Approved Groundwater Withdrawals					
	Commission	Docket			
Source	Withdrawal (mgd)	Docket No.	Expiration Date		
Well 5	0.860	19950501	May 11, 2025		

Section 7. Grandfathering Determination – Withdrawals

On May 2, 2018, the project sponsor submitted a grandfathered water use registration under 18 CFR §§ 806.40-45 for Wells 1 and 2. The Executive Director issued Certificate of Registration No. GF-201907040 on July 29, 2019, for Wells 1 and 2, pursuant to 18 CFR § 806.44.

Section 8. Standard Conditions

1. The project sponsor shall comply with all Commission regulations, 18 CFR Parts 801, 806, and 808. This project is subject to the Annual Compliance and Monitoring fee as specified in the Commission's Regulatory Program Fee Schedule, which may be modified over the term of the approval.

2. The project sponsor shall adhere to the metering plan reviewed and approved by Commission staff. Any modifications proposed for the metering plan shall be submitted for review and, if appropriate, approval by Commission staff in accordance with 18 CFR § 806.30. Modifications shall not be made until the project sponsor receives written approval of the amended plan.

3. The project sponsor shall maintain the totalizing meters and other flow and volume measuring devices, accurate to within five (5) percent, so as to provide an accurate record of withdrawals, and certify to the Commission once every five (5) years, or as otherwise requested, the accuracy of all measuring devices and methods to within five (5) percent of actual flow.

4. The project sponsor shall adhere to the groundwater elevation monitoring plan reviewed and approved by Commission staff for the sources listed in Sections 3, 6, and 7. The project sponsor shall maintain and monitor the accuracy of the measuring devices in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

5. The project sponsor shall keep daily records of the project's withdrawals and groundwater elevations for the sources listed in Sections 3, 6, and 7, and shall report the data to the Commission quarterly, and as otherwise required, in the form and manner as prescribed by Commission staff. Quarterly monitoring reports shall be submitted online and are due within thirty (30) days after the close of the preceding quarter. Any alternative measuring, monitoring, or accounting procedure, and any modifications proposed for the groundwater elevation monitoring plan, shall be submitted for review and approval by Commission staff in accordance with 18 CFR § 806.30. Modifications shall not be made until the project sponsor receives written approval of the amended plan. All data collected and submitted as required under this approval shall be maintained by the project sponsor for the duration of the approval and all subsequent renewals.

6. The project sponsor or any other person representing the project sponsor shall allow authorized employees or agents of the Commission, without advance notice, at any reasonable time and upon presentation of appropriate credentials, and without delay, to have access to and to inspect all areas where the project is being constructed, operated, or maintained, or otherwise exercise all investigative powers authorized under 18 CFR § 808.12.

7. In accordance with 18 CFR § 806.30(b)(2), the project sponsor shall report violations of any withdrawal limits and any conditions of this approval within five (5) days of such violation or report loss of measuring or recording capabilities required under 18 CFR § 806.30(a)(1) within five (5) days after any such loss.

8. In accordance with 18 CFR § 806.6, if ownership of the project changes or if the project sponsor undergoes a name change, the project sponsor shall submit application for transfer or reissuance of all approvals to the Commission within ninety (90) days of the change in ownership or project sponsor name change.

9. The project sponsor shall comply with the water conservation requirements specified in 18 CFR § 806.25.

10. This approval is conditioned on the project sponsor maintaining legal access to the withdrawal locations for the duration of the approval.

11. The project sponsor shall register with the appropriate agency all groundwater sources described herein, as may be required by regulations of the member jurisdiction.

12. If the project sponsor fails to comply with the provisions of the Susquehanna River Basin Compact or any rule, regulation, or order of the Commission, or any term or condition of this docket, the project sponsor is subject to enforcement actions pursuant to 18 CFR Part 808.

13. Commission approval shall not be construed to exempt the project sponsor from obtaining and maintaining all necessary permits and/or approvals required for the project from other federal, state, or local government agencies having jurisdiction over the project. All such permits and/or approvals shall be obtained prior to the withdrawal of water. The Commission may modify, suspend, or revoke this approval if the project sponsor fails to obtain or maintain such permits and/or approvals.

14. The Commission may at any time reopen any project approval or issue such additional orders, as may be necessary, to mitigate or avoid adverse impacts or otherwise to protect public health, safety, welfare, or the environment, pursuant to 18 CFR § 806.32.

15. Commission approval confers no property rights upon the project sponsor. The securing of all rights necessary and incident to the project sponsor's development and operation of the project shall be the sole and exclusive responsibility of the project sponsor, and this approval shall be subject thereto.

16. This project is approved for inclusion in the Commission's Comprehensive Plan for the Water Resources of the Susquehanna River Basin.

17. The project sponsor is required to apply for and obtain approval prior to any increase in withdrawal that would exceed the amounts listed herein.

18. The project sponsor is required to apply for and obtain approval prior to any increase in the total system withdrawal that would exceed the approved total system withdrawal limits listed herein.

19. If the Commission determines that the operation of the project's groundwater withdrawals adversely affects any existing groundwater or surface water withdrawal, the project sponsor shall be required to provide, at its expense, an alternate water supply or other mitigating measure.

Section 9. Special Conditions

20. The project sponsor shall comply with the water conservation requirements and reduce system water losses to less than twenty (20) percent to comply with 18 CFR § 806.25(a)(1). The project sponsor shall reduce system losses and achieve compliance with the

water conservation requirements within five (5) years of the effective date of this docket approval unless the Commission grants an extension of time due to extenuating circumstances described, in writing, by the project sponsor. The project sponsor shall report to the Commission annually on the progress made pursuant to this requirement. Annual reports are due within sixty (60) days after the close of the preceding calendar year. If the project sponsor can show that system water losses are below twenty (20) percent for two (2) consecutive calendar years, annual reports for the remainder of the five (5)-year period may no longer be required following written notification from Commission staff.

21. The date of the last meter certification for Well 4 was July 9, 2018, and the date of the last meter certification for Well 3 was November 8, 2019; therefore, the next meter certification for all system wells is due no later than November 8, 2024. Certification of meter accuracy shall be provided to the Commission no less frequent than once every five (5) years from the date of the last certification.

22. Prior to supplying water for any use not authorized pursuant to Section 2 of this approval, the project sponsor shall first submit a request for minor modification under 18 CFR § 806.18(c)(4) for such new use to the Executive Director. The project sponsor shall not supply water for such use unless and until such authorization is granted, and pursuant to any supplemental terms and conditions contained in such approval.

23. The groundwater availability analysis indicates that Well 5 is located within the contributing groundwater basin for Well 4 and utilization of the 1-in-10-year drought recharge is approximately 98 percent without consideration of the Well 5 withdrawal. Therefore, concurrent operation of Wells 4 and 5 is prohibited.

Section 10. Term

24. This approval shall be effective October 1, 2021, and shall remain effective until September 30, 2036. As specified in 18 CFR § 806.31(e), if the project sponsor submits an application on or before March 31, 2036, the project sponsor may continue operation of this project pursuant to the terms and conditions of this approval until such time as the Commission acts on such application, or until otherwise notified by the Executive Director.

25. Commission Docket No. 19910904 shall remain effective through September 30, 2021, whereupon it shall expire.

CERTIFICATION: I, Jason E. Oyler, Secretary to the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, do hereby certify that the foregoing project docket was approved by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission on September 17, 2021.

Dated: September 20, 2021

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