



# SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

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**Docket No. 20220302**

**Approval Date: March 17, 2022**

## **COLUMBIA WATER COMPANY FACILITY: MARIETTA DIVISION**

**Groundwater Withdrawals (30-Day Averages) of  
0.533 mgd from Chickies Well 2 and 0.464 mgd from Chickies Well 3, and  
Total System Withdrawal Limit (30-Day Average) of 0.660 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 serves portions of Lancaster and York Counties, Pennsylvania, and consists of two separate divisions. Transfer of ownership of the Marietta Division portion of the system in 2012 to the project sponsor required review of the existing sources. The Marietta Division includes three groundwater sources (Chickies Well 2, Chickies Well 3, and Dugan Well 4), all of which are incorporated into the total system limit. The project sponsor also maintains an interconnection from Columbia Water Company's Columbia Division, which is not included in the total system limit. Based on information provided by the project sponsor, no other sources are operated by the project.

This approval establishes a total system withdrawal limit of 0.660 million gallons per day (mgd), which is consistent with the 15-year projected demand through 2037. The reported maximum historical 30-day average demand for the public water supply system is approximately 0.623 mgd.

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 established herein is based on 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	
<b>Project Sponsor:</b>	Columbia Water Company
<b>Approval Type:</b>	Groundwater Withdrawal
<b>Authorized Water Use Purpose:</b>	Public Water Supply
<b>Municipality:</b>	West Hempfield Township
<b>County:</b>	Lancaster County
<b>State:</b>	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	
<b>Withdrawal Type:</b>	Groundwater
<b>Approved Sources:</b>	Chickies Well 2 and Chickies Well 3
<b>Subbasin:</b>	Lower Susquehanna
<b>Watershed Boundary Dataset (WBD):</b>	0205030608 (Chickies Creek)
<b>Withdrawal Location (degrees)*:</b>	Lat: -- Long: --
<b>Special Flow Protection Required:</b>	No
* Specific location information concerning discrete water-related project features has been withheld for security reasons.	

## Section 4. Aquifer Testing

The constant-rate aquifer testing required by 18 CFR § 806.12 for groundwater withdrawals was completed with prior Commission approval. A 72-hour, constant-rate aquifer test of Chickies Well 2 was conducted on October 15 through 18, 2018, pumping at an average rate of 370 gallons per minute (gpm). A 92.5-hour, constant-rate aquifer test of Chickies Well 3 was conducted on August 12 through 16, 2019, pumping at an average rate of 322 gpm.

Commission staff determined that the withdrawals from Chickies Well 2 and Chickies Well 3 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, subject to the conditions set forth below.

## 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		
	Chickies Well 2	Chickies Well 3
<b>30-Day Average Withdrawal (mgd):</b>	0.533	0.464
<b>Maximum Instantaneous Withdrawal Rate (gpm) (Not to Exceed):</b>	425	375
<b>Peak Day Withdrawal (mgd):</b>	0.612	0.540
<b>Total System Withdrawal Limit – Chickies Well 2, Chickies Well 3, and Dugan Well 4 (30-Day Average) (mgd):</b>	0.660	

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			
Source	30-Day Average Withdrawal (mgd)	Commission Docket No.	Docket Expiration Date
Dugan Well 4	0.015	20180904	September 6, 2033

## Section 7. Unapproved Sources

With this approval, all withdrawals used by the project have Commission approval.

## 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 meter 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 and 6. 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 and 6, 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 withdrawal 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 date of the last meter certification was August 24, 2021; therefore, the next meter certification is due no later than August 24, 2026. 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.

## Section 10. Term

21. This approval is effective until March 16, 2037. As specified in 18 CFR § 806.31(e), if the project sponsor submits an application on or before September 16, 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.

**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 March 17, 2022.

Dated: March 18, 2022

  
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Jason E. Oyler, Esq.