



# SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

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**Docket No. 20230307**

**Approval Date: March 16, 2023**

## **MOUNT UNION MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY**

**Groundwater Withdrawal (30-Day Average) of 0.432 mgd**

**from Well #3 – Lemkelde, and**

**Total System Withdrawal Limit (30-Day Average) of 0.845 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 renewal of 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 three groundwater sources (Well 1, Well 2, and Well #3 – Lemkelde) and one surface water source (Singer's Gap Reservoir), 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 withdrawal of 0.432 million gallons per day (mgd) from Well #3 – Lemkelde and 0.489 mgd from Singer's Gap Reservoir under Commission Docket No. 20070303. The project sponsor submitted a groundwater withdrawal renewal application requesting approval to withdraw up to 0.432 mgd from Well #3 – Lemkelde, and requested an extension of the Singer's Gap Reservoir withdrawal approval to March 31, 2028, to allow time for development of a replacement source and abandonment of the surface water withdrawal. This approval authorizes continued withdrawals at the requested rate for Well #3 – Lemkelde, extends approval of withdrawals from Singer's Gap Reservoir under Commission Docket No. 20070303, and reduces the total system withdrawal limit from 0.980 mgd to 0.845 mgd, consistent with the 15-year projected demand through 2038.

Should demand exceed the total system withdrawal limit established herein, the project sponsor may submit a minor modification application in accordance with 18 CFR § 806.18(c)(7) to request an increase to the total system withdrawal limit, as the total system withdrawal 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>	Mount Union Municipal Authority
<b>Approval Type:</b>	Groundwater Withdrawal
<b>Previous Docket No.:</b>	20070303
<b>Authorized Water Use Purpose:</b>	Public Water Supply
<b>Municipality:</b>	Wayne Township
<b>County:</b>	Mifflin County
<b>State:</b>	Pennsylvania

## Section 3. Source Information

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

Source Information	
<b>Withdrawal Type:</b>	Groundwater
<b>Approved Source:</b>	Well #3 – Lemkelde
<b>Subbasin:</b>	Juniata
<b>Watershed Boundary Dataset (WBD):</b>	0205030401 (Juniata River)
<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

Staff determined that the requirements of 18 CFR § 806.12 were met in 2003 with prior approval of an aquifer testing plan for Well #3 – Lemkelde. The project sponsor requested that the required interpretive report under 18 CFR § 806.23 be considered satisfied by the evaluation completed by Commission staff under the Public Water Supply Assistance Program (PWSAP). Staff evaluated hydrogeologic setting information, completed an analysis and comparison of the results of the 2003 50-hour aquifer test to historical withdrawal and groundwater elevation data provided by the project sponsor, and prepared a Voluntary Action Plan (Plan) that provided a summary of an availability analysis, available data, a hydrogeologic evaluation, and renewal options for Well #3 – Lemkelde. Commission staff evaluated the available hydrogeologic and operational data and found that the existing data provides the necessary support to evaluate potential impacts to other users, impacts to the environment, and the sustainability of the withdrawal at the previously tested rate of 0.432 mgd without requiring new testing or additional

hydrogeologic evaluation. Accordingly, the Plan provided the project sponsor with an option to accept staff's evaluation and apply for quantities consistent with or less than the historically tested rate identified in the Plan and utilize Commission staff's hydrogeologic evaluation to support renewal.

The project sponsor utilized staff's evaluation, which determined that the withdrawal from Well #3 – Lemkelde at a rate of 0.432 mgd should not cause permanent loss of aquifer storage, render competing supplies unreliable, or cause adverse impacts to the water resources of the basin.

## Section 5. Approved Withdrawal Quantities and Limitations

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

Approved Withdrawal Quantities and Limitations	
<b>30-Day Average Withdrawal (mgd):</b>	0.432
<b>Maximum Instantaneous Withdrawal Rate (gpm):</b>	300 (Not to Exceed)
<b>Peak Day Withdrawal (mgd):</b>	0.432
<b>Total System Withdrawal Limit – Well 1, Well 2, and Well #3 – Lemkelde, and Singer's Gap Reservoir (30-Day Average) (mgd):</b>	0.845
gpm – gallons per minute	

The withdrawal is 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 tables below.

Existing Approved Groundwater Withdrawals			
Source	30-Day Average Withdrawal (mgd)	Commission Docket No.	Docket Expiration Date
Wells 1 and 2	0.864	20021012	October 10, 2027

Existing Approved Surface Water Withdrawals			
Source	Peak Day Withdrawal (mgd)	Commission Docket No.	Docket Expiration Date
Singer's Gap Reservoir	0.489	20070303	March 31, 2028 <sup>1</sup>
<sup>1</sup> Approval for Singer's Gap Reservoir under Commission Docket No. 20070303 is being extended per Special Condition 23 and Term Condition 26 of this docket.			

## **Section 7. Grandfathering Determination – Withdrawals and Consumptive Use**

The project did not utilize groundwater withdrawals prior to July 13, 1978, and all surface water withdrawals used by the project have Commission approval.

The project did not consumptively use water prior to January 23, 1971.

## **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 withdrawal 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 location for the duration of the approval.

11. The project sponsor shall register with the appropriate agency all surface water and 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 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. A new meter was installed for Well #3 – Lemkelde on August 18, 2022, and the date of the last meter certification for the two Singer's Gap Reservoir meters was October 25, 2022. The next meter certifications are due no later than October 25, 2027. 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. The project sponsor shall keep records, and shall report the same to the Commission upon request, of all persons supplied water from the project that maintain a permanent connection to the public water supply system. The project sponsor shall also keep daily records, and shall report the same to the Commission upon request, of all persons supplied water from the project that do not maintain a permanent connection to the public water supply system, including daily quantities supplied.

23. Should the project sponsor determine that the need for use of the Singer's Gap Reservoir as a source will continue beyond March 31, 2028, as authorized herein, the project sponsor shall submit an application for withdrawal from Singer's Gap Reservoir on or before September 30, 2027, per 18 CFR § 806.31(e). The project sponsor may continue operation of the Singer's Gap Reservoir pursuant to the terms and conditions of Commission Docket No. 20070303 until such time as the Commission acts on such application, or until otherwise notified by the Executive Director.

24. The project sponsor shall provide annual progress updates regarding development of a new source and/or abandoning withdrawals from Singer's Gap Reservoir. Annual updates are due by July 1 of each year, with the first update due on July 1, 2024.

#### **Section 10. Term**

25. This approval shall be effective April 1, 2023, for Well #3 – Lemkelde, and the approval for Well #3 – Lemkelde shall remain effective until March 31, 2038. As specified in 18 CFR § 806.31(e), if the project sponsor submits an application on or before September 30, 2037, 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.

26. Approval of withdrawal from Well #3 – Lemkelde by Commission Docket No. 20070303 shall remain effective through March 31, 2023, whereupon it shall expire. Approval of withdrawal from Singer's Gap Reservoir by Commission Docket No. 20070303 remains effective until March 31, 2028, unless extended per Special Condition 23 herein.

**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 16, 2023.

Dated: March 17, 2023

  
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Jason E. Oyler, Esq.