



# SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

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**Docket No. 20230617**

**Approval Date: June 15, 2023**

## **PILGRIM'S OAK GOLF COURSE**

**Surface Water Withdrawals (Peak Day) of up to 0.237 mgd  
from Peters Creek and 0.237 mgd (30-Day Average) from an  
On-stream Pond on an Unnamed Tributary to Peters Creek; and  
Consumptive Use (30-Day Average) of up to 0.237 mgd  
from the On-stream Irrigation Pond**

### **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 renewal of the project described herein in accordance with the conditions set forth below.

This approval is a renewal of the project which was previously approved by Commission Docket No. 19980505 on May 21, 1998. The project sponsor has requested a change of the consumptive use quantity from a peak day basis to a 30-day average basis and no other changes to rates or infrastructure configuration. The project sponsor maintains and withdraws water for golf course irrigation from an on-stream pond on an unnamed tributary (UNT) to Peters Creek. The project's existing flow protection measure for the UNT to Peters Creek is being maintained by a passive flow-by structure. The passive structure allows one-fourth of the streamflow to flow-by with the remaining three-fourths of the flow being directed to the on-stream irrigation pond with any overflow from the on-stream pond returning to the UNT to Peters Creek. The existing flow protection requirement also allows a withdrawal of one-fourth of the streamflow from Peters Creek to supplement withdrawal from the on-stream irrigation pond. Commission staff recommended that the existing special flow protection requirements be maintained. This approval incorporates those recommendations.

The project utilizes water from a well for potable/sanitary water uses. Water from the well will not be used consumptively.

Commission staff has coordinated with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP), the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), 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>	Pilgrim's Oak Golf Course
<b>Approval Types:</b>	Surface Water Withdrawal and Consumptive Use
<b>Previous Docket No:</b>	19980505
<b>Authorized Water Use Purpose:</b>	Golf Course Irrigation and Related Incidental Uses
<b>Municipality:</b>	Drumore 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>Approved Sources:</b>	1. Peters Creek 2. On-stream Pond on an UNT to Peters Creek
<b>Subbasin:</b>	Lower Susquehanna
<b>Watershed Boundary Dataset (WBD):</b>	0205030617 (Lower Susquehanna River)
<b>Water Use Designation*:</b>	High Quality – Warm Water Fishery (HQ-WWF)
<b>Withdrawal Locations (degrees):</b>	
1. Peters Creek	Lat: 39.794256 N Long: 76.205560 W
2. UNT to Peters Creek**	Lat: 39.794555 N Long: 76.203302 W
<b>Site Flow Statistics (cfs)*:</b>	Q7-10 = 0.52; Average Daily Flow = 3.3
<b>Wild Trout Classification*:</b>	Naturally Reproducing Wild Trout
<b>Impairment*:</b>	Habitat Alterations
<b>Drainage Areas (square miles):</b>	
1. Peters Creek	2.3
2. UNT to Peters Creek**	0.2
<b>Aquatic Resource Class***:</b>	1
<b>Special Flow Protection Required:</b>	Yes
cfs – cubic feet per second	
* Source information of Peters Creek.	
** Refers to the point of impact on the UNT to Peters Creek.	
*** Refer to Commission Policy No. 2012-01 (Low Flow Protection Policy Related to Withdrawal Approvals).	

## Section 4. 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	
<b>Peak Day Withdrawal Amount (mgd)</b> <b>(Not to Exceed, When Available):</b>	0.237 (Peters Creek)
<b>30-Day Average Withdrawal Amount (mgd) (Not to Exceed):</b>	0.237 (On-stream Pond on an UNT to Peters Creek)
<b>Maximum Instantaneous Withdrawal Rates (gpm) (Not to Exceed):</b>	1. 200 (Peters Creek) 2. 1,200 (On-stream Pond on an UNT to Peters Creek)
<b>Flow Protection Types:</b>	1. Percent of allowable withdrawal (Peters Creek) 2. Passive flow-by (UNT to Peters Creek)
<b>Methods for Monitoring Flow Protection:</b>	1. Off-site monitoring of USGS Real-Time Gage 01494850; East Branch Big Elk Creek at Forestville, Pennsylvania (Peters Creek) 2. Passive flow-by structure (UNT to Peters Creek)
<b>Flow Protection:</b>	1. See Special Condition 19 (Peters Creek) 2. See Special Condition 22 (UNT to Peters Creek)
mgd – million gallons per day gpm – gallons per minute	

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

## Section 5. Approved Consumptive Use Quantities and Limitations

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

Approved Consumptive Use Quantities and Limitations	
<b>Sources for Project Consumptive Use:</b>	1. Peters Creek 2. On-stream Pond on an UNT to Peters Creek
<b>30-Day Average Consumptive Use Amount (mgd):</b>	0.237 (Not to Exceed)
<b>Authorized Project Consumptive Uses:</b>	1. Golf Course Irrigation 2. Related Incidental Uses
<b>Consumptive Use Mitigation Type:</b>	Payment of consumptive use mitigation fee

The consumptive use is also subject to all other conditions set forth in this docket approval.

## **Section 6. Grandfathering Determination – Withdrawals and Consumptive Use**

All withdrawals and consumptive use by the project have Commission approval.

## **Section 7. 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 consumptive uses, 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 intake design reviewed and approved by Commission staff. Prior to any modifications of the intake design or changes to the intake location, the project sponsor shall contact Commission staff to determine appropriate application requirements for submittal for review and, if appropriate, approval prior to undertaking such modification(s).

5. The project sponsor shall keep daily records of the project's withdrawals and consumptive use 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 requested by the project sponsor 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's consumptive use is subject to mitigation requirements, as per 18 CFR § 806.22(b). To satisfy the Commission's current mitigation requirements for consumptive use, the project sponsor shall make quarterly payments to the Commission at the rate specified in the effective Regulatory Program Fee Schedule, as modified from time to time by the Commission. Payments shall be made quarterly and shall be calculated by applying this rate to the total

amount of water consumptively used by the project during the preceding calendar quarter. Quarterly payments are due and payable within thirty (30) days after the close of the preceding quarter. The rate of payment, after appropriate notice to consumptive users of water using this method of compliance, is subject to change at the Commission's discretion.

7. 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.

8. In accordance with 18 CFR § 806.30(b)(2), the project sponsor shall report violations of any withdrawal or consumptive use 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.

9. 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.

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

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

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

13. 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.

14. 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.

15. 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.

16. 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.

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

18. The project sponsor is required to apply for and obtain approval prior to any increase in withdrawals or consumptive use that would exceed the amounts listed herein or to add a source used for consumptive use that is not listed in Section 5.

## **Section 8. Special Conditions**

19. The project sponsor shall limit the withdrawal from Peters Creek to no more than one-fourth of the streamflow of Peters Creek calculated using the U.S. Geological Survey stream gage specified in Section 4, provided this quantity, in addition to the quantity withdrawn from the irrigation pond, does not exceed 0.237 mgd.

20. The project sponsor shall maintain the existing flow-by structure on the UNT to Peters Creek reviewed and approved by Commission staff. The system shall be kept fully functional and free of debris.

21. Due to the interrelationship of the withdrawal from the on-stream pond and flow-by structure on the UNT to Peters Creek, prior to making any changes to the approved flow-by structure, the project sponsor shall contact Commission staff to determine appropriate application requirements and, if appropriate, submit a request for modification under 18 CFR § 806.18(d)(4). The project sponsor shall not make any changes to the flow-by structure until approval of modifications is granted, and pursuant to any supplemental terms and conditions contained in such approval.

22. The project sponsor shall allow one-fourth of the streamflow of the UNT to Peters Creek to flow-by with no more than three-fourths of the streamflow of the UNT to Peters Creek passively directed to the on-stream irrigation pond.

23. The project sponsor shall, on a daily basis, collect and record streamflow as measured at the U.S. Geological Survey stream gage specified in Section 4, 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. The project sponsor may propose alternative flow monitoring to the Commission for staff review and, if appropriate, approval.

24. The date of the last meter certification was November 17, 2020; therefore, the next meter certification is due no later than November 17, 2025. 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.

25. The project sponsor shall adhere to recommendations provided by PFBC for avoiding adverse impact to documented occurrences of a naturally reproducing wild trout population at or in proximity to the project location. The project sponsor shall avoid instream construction, maintenance, and modification of the intake from October 1 through December 31, unless otherwise approved by PFBC, in writing, and submitted to the Commission

26. Prior to supplying water for any use not authorized pursuant to Sections 2 or 5 of this approval, the project sponsor shall first submit a minor modification application 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.

27. In the event the water level in the on-stream pond is sufficiently lowered, either naturally or intentionally, the project sponsor shall have an inspection of the intake facility completed and an as-built drawing prepared. The findings of the inspection and a copy of the as-built drawing shall be submitted to the Commission.

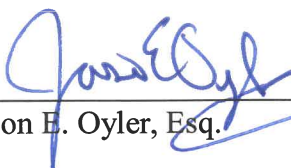
## **Section 9. Term**

28. This approval shall be effective July 1, 2023, and shall remain effective until June 30, 2038. As specified in 18 CFR § 806.31(e), if the project sponsor submits an application on or before December 31, 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.

29. Commission Docket No. 19980505 shall remain effective through June 30, 2023, 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 June 15, 2023.

Dated: June 16, 2023

  
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Jason E. Oyler, Esq.