

Municipal Authority of the Township of East Hempfield *Docket Modification to Increase the Total System Limit*

The Municipal Authority of the Township of East Hempfield (MATEH), who is also currently known as the Hempfield Water Authority and has previously been known as the East Hempfield Township Municipal Authority, operates a public water supply system in East Hempfield Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The public water supply system consists of 11 sources: Wells W-1, W-2, W-3, W-4, W-5, W-6, W-7, W-8, W-11, Spring S-1, and an interconnection with the City of Lancaster that is rarely used. On September 20, 2012, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (Commission) approved continued operation of withdrawals from Wells W-1 through W-5 and Spring S-1 under Commission Docket No. 20120906 (Docket). The Docket also established a total system limit of 1.937 million gallons per day (mgd) for withdrawals from all of MATEH's sources, excluding the interconnection with the City of Lancaster, and established subsystem limits for wells in close proximity. The total system limit was established based on MATEH's historical use from all of its sources and adequately meets its existing water supply demands. The Docket included a condition (Special Condition 21) that allowed MATEH to complete operational testing to demonstrate that a higher total system limit is sustainable without causing significant adverse impact to other users or the environment. Special Condition 21 also provided that Commission staff will review the results of the operational testing and present findings and recommendations to the Commissioners for consideration of modifications to the Docket and the corresponding subsystem and total system limits. In accordance with Special Condition 21 and at MATEH's request, the Commission has initiated this docket modification process.

The operational testing has been completed and an interpretive hydrogeologic report has been submitted to the Commission for review. Operational testing included monitoring of nearby streams, production wells, and observation wells to assess the impacts of operating MATEH's sources. Based on the results of operational testing, MATEH contends that the total system limit established in 2012 is too low and requests that the Commission increase the total system limit from 1.937 mgd to 4.105 mgd.

The reported annual average demand for the public water supply system is currently 1.168 mgd and has decreased since the total system limit was established in 2012. However, MATEH has indicated that the 15-year foreseeable demand for the public water supply system is 6.100 mgd. The Commission is evaluating the sustainability of the requested withdrawals, impacts to streams and nearby wells, the appropriateness of total system and subsystem limits, and the reasonable foreseeable need for the term of the approval.