

**CRAWFORD TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY  
PO BOX 273  
JERSEY SHORE PA 17740**

August 15, 2025

To; Customers of the Crawford Township Authority

This letter is to provide you with another status report on our water system and advise you that the Authority board has determined that it will be necessary to increase water rates in the near future. Our last rate increase was effective in October of 2023, and although we had hoped to delay another increase for several years, we are unable to operate, maintain, and improve the system without additional revenue. Our 2024 projections show that our costs exceeded our income by approximately \$3700.00.

Since the 2023 rate increase, we have accomplished the following, at no additional cost to our customers, in addition to normal operations and maintenance of the treatment plant and system;

- Completed replacement of all customer meters, so that we are confident that all water being used is properly measured. The new meters are radio read units which eliminate the need to access your property to take readings, and they provide the ability to record usage so that we can better determine if there is a leak in your portion of the system.
- Upgraded our computer software to better monitor and control plant operation and water quality.
- Performed PFAS ("Forever chemicals") sampling in accordance with DEP and EPA requirements.
- Initiated lead service line sampling in accordance with DEP and EPA requirements to determine if any lead lines are present in the system. That work is ongoing and requires us to physically inspect almost all of our 240 service lines.
- Applied for a grant to assist with the replacement of two of our pressure filter vessels, a project with a total cost of approximately \$129,000.
- Completed additional monitoring, sampling, and testing procedures in accordance with PADEP requirements.

We are involved in several programs through DEP to ensure the long-term viability of the system, and to promote efficient, cost-effective operation and maintenance. They include;

- 1) Mapping the entire water distribution system so records of line locations, sizes, materials, and age are all in one place and immediately accessible.
- 2) Perform annual water audits to ensure that all water is accounted for, and to investigate sources of lost water or lost revenue.
- 3) Investigate the potential of a well as a supplemental source and for use when the existing stream sources have high turbidity. The Authority is responsible for costs of access to potential well sites, testing of the water, and the costs of connecting the well to the system if the well proves to be satisfactory for use.

There is additional plant equipment that will eventually need to be replaced, and we created a Capital Improvement Fund to set aside funds for that eventual replacement work but had to draw funds from that to address our master meter projects. We may also have to address piping in the system which contains any lead found during the lead service line investigation, and those costs are unknown.

Our current rates will simply not provide sufficient revenue to address all the upcoming needs. We are taking action to implement an increase of approximately 15 percent, effective October 1 of 2025, which will show on water bills sent out in January of 2026.

We thank you for being a customer. Our goal is to keep the water system under local control and meet all regulatory requirements in the most cost-effective manner possible.