HEARING OFFICER RULING ON PA SET I DISCOVERY DISPUTE MARCH 23, 2018

HO-I-1. PLEASE STATE WHAT THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR FINANCE

REMEMBERS ABOUT ADVICE, SUGGESTION, RECOMMENDATION OR

REQUESTS, IF ANY, FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CITY TREASURER TO

THE DEPARTMENT REGARDING PWD REVENUE BONDS, PWD

INDEBTEDNESS OTHER THAN REVENUE BONDS, PWD REVENUES,

PWD FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE, PWD FINANCIAL GOALS, AND

ASSUMPTIONS ON THESE TOPICS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FINANCIAL

STABILITY PLAN AND THE RATE CASE:

RESPONSE:

PWD Revenue Bonds

Interactions between the Department and the City Treasurer's Office ("CTO") related to revenue bond offerings are generally described below. These interactions do not neatly fit in the categories of advice, suggestions or requests, but constitute the "give and take" of a collegial process where everyone's input is important. Both Melissa LaBuda, Deputy Water Commissioner, Finance and Jaclyn Rogers, Utility Financial Services Manager are participants in the bond team as described below. The extent of the participation of the CTO and others is also described below.

Please see the attached schedules from the last two transactions to provide an idea of the tasks required to complete a financing. Generally, the bond offering process is a collective effort among various professionals to finance capital projects. The Department funds

approximately 80% of its capital program with tax exempt bonds and monitors closely its capital spending. Once the decision has been made to finance a capital project by issuing bonds, a financing team is assembled to develop offering documents, to prepare for any rating agency and investor presentations, to market the bond offering to investors, to price the bonds and close the transaction.

There are several specific areas where CTO takes the lead, they are described below:

- 1) Bond Issuance Calendar: The CTO is tasked with coordinating the timing of the City's bond offerings, including general obligation and tax-backed financings as well as the enterprise debt including the Philadelphia Gas Works, Philadelphia Water Department and the Philadelphia Airport. The bond calendar schedule is determined in large part by the capital needs of each of the funds as well as market timing for possible refunding opportunities. The CTO relies on the individual CFO's of each fund to inform the office on the required timing to fund capital needs. In general, CTO attempts to have financings separated by at least one to two weeks to avoid over-saturation and provide for better market access.
- 2) City Council Approvals: The CTO coordinates, with the City Law Department, the submission of all required City Council ordinances related to bond financings. The CTO relies on the Department for input regarding specific legal requirements or bond terms required in the Ordinances.
- 3) City Related Disclosure: The CTO oversees all of the City related disclosure which is Appendix IV, Government and Financial Information of the City of Philadelphia and Appendix V, City of Philadelphia Socioeconomic Information. These are required as a component of the Department's bond offering document. The disclosure related to the Department is overseen by Department. The Director of

Finance, Mr. Rob Dubow, signs the final disclosure document for all City bond offerings, including the Department's offerings.

- 4) Selection of Underwriting Team: The CTO coordinates the selection of the underwriting team with input from each of the enterprise funds. The CTO prepares a memo which is submitted to the Director of Finance for approval. Please see the response attachment which includes a notice of underwriter selection.
- 5) Pricing the Bonds: The CTO along with the Department, and the financial advisors oversee the marketing and pricing of the bonds. The Director of Finance signs the Bond Purchase Agreement and has final approval for bond pricing.
- 6) Coordinating Closing: The CTO coordinates the closing and ensures that the bond proceeds are deposited with City's Fiscal Agent for Water & Wastewater Revenue Bonds. Investment decisions are governed by the City's investment policy and are made in consultation with the Department finance professionals based on anticipated capital plan expenditures.

There are specific areas where PWD takes the lead, they are described below:

7) Consulting Engineers Report and Financial Plan: Melissa LaBuda and Jaclyn Rogers are the lead points of contact for the completion and / or update of an Engineering Report ("Report"). The Report summarizes the findings of engineering studies performed by Black & Veatch Management Consulting, LLC ("Black & Veatch") related to the water and wastewater systems of the PWD. The Restated General Water and Wastewater Revenue Bond Ordinance of 1989 and the amendments and supplements set forth in the First through the Twentieth Supplemental Ordinances (together the "General Ordinance") require the preparation and submission of an

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Engineering Report as a condition to be met prior to the authorization and issuance of bonds under the General Ordinance. The CTO is not involved in this process.

The Engineering Report presents the results of the financial plan of the water and wastewater systems, which are based on a review of the PWD's financial data, records, and other information. The Report also addresses the condition of the system infrastructure, adequacy of system capacity, organization and management, operation and maintenance practices, and staffing levels of the water and wastewater systems. It includes a review of the proposed Capital Improvement Program ("CIP") of the PWD. In the preparation of the Report, "the Black & Veatch team performed site visits and conducted inspections of major water and wastewater facilities during the months of June and July 2017. Black & Veatch reviewed the current condition, and operation and maintenance of the water and wastewater systems. The team also met with key Water Department staff during June to August 2017 to discuss other facilities, regulatory compliance, staffing, and the overall mission of the Water Department. Staff interviewed during our studies included representatives from the following six of the seven divisions within the Water Department: Finance; Operations; Engineering and Construction; Public Affairs; Human Resources; and Planning and Environmental Services." ¹

The financial data used in the report is from the Water Department's historical audited financial statements through fiscal year 2016, the approved operating and capital budgets for fiscal year 2018. Melissa LaBuda and Jaclyn Rogers are the points of contact for this information.

¹ Source: Engineering Report For Twentieth Supplemental Ordinance of Water and Wastewater Revenue Bonds for Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020.

The Report and accompanying financial plan update are an important part of Official Statement. The Official Statement is a "document prepared by or on behalf of a state or local government in connection with a new issue of municipal securities. In some respects, an official statement is comparable to a prospectus for a corporate equity or debt offering. An official statement describes the essential terms of the bonds. It typically provides the most detailed description of the terms and features of the bonds through maturity, unless and until these terms have been modified."²

- 8) Official Statement: As detailed above, Melissa LaBuda and Jaclyn Rogers are the lead points of contact for the completion and / or update of the disclosure concerning the Water Department contained in the Official Statement. To accomplish this, Melissa LaBuda and Jaclyn Rogers work closely with the Department's Disclosure Counsel, Greenberg Traurig, LLP.
- 9) Financial Performance and Financial Plan– See description below.
- 10) Rating Agency Matters The rating agencies assess the credit quality of the Departments bonds, assign a rating to debt and also periodically update ratings while debt is outstanding. Melissa LaBuda and Jaclyn Rogers lead these efforts for the Department and work closely with PFM and Acacia, the Department's financial advisors, to formulate and present the Department's credit summary. Ms. LaBuda and Ms. Rogers are also the points of contact for any follow-up items related to the rating agency questions concerning Department specific matters. To the extent that rating questions arise regarding other City related issues and concerns, CTO provides assistance.

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² Source: MSRB education center.

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11) Investor Matters – Melissa LaBuda and Jaclyn Rogers lead these efforts for the Department and work closely with PFM and Acacia to formulate and present the Department's investor summary. Ms. LaBuda and Ms. Rogers are also the points of contact for any follow-up items related to the investor questions concerning Department specific matters. To the extent that investor matters arise regarding other City related issues and concerns, CTO provides assistance.

PWD Non-Current Liabilities (Indebtedness)³

The Department and CTO interact with regard to reporting non-current liabilities. As of June 30, 2017, the Water Fund had \$2.5 billion of non-current liabilities outstanding which include Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds (\$1.7 billion), Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority Loans (\$138 million) which are also considered revenue bonds, Net Pension Liability (\$455 million) and other items. These interactions do not neatly fit within the categories of advice, suggestions or requests, but take the form of an exchange of financial information to comply with applicable reporting requirements.

Financial Plan Assumptions, Financial Performance and Financial Statements

The CTO is not involved in discussions concerning financial performance goals and metrics used in the Financial Stability Plan. These goals and metrics are developed as described below.

1) The Department works with Black & Veatch, Raftelis, PFM and Acacia to formulate its Financial Plan assumptions. Melissa LaBuda and Jaclyn Rogers lead this effort for the Department. The Department updates its financial plan, at least annually, or more frequently as needed to provide updated financial information for debt

³ City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017 and City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia Water Department Financial Report Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017.

issuance matters as described above. The City Treasurer's office is not involved in these discussions as such no advice, suggestions or requests were given.

- 2) Financial Plan Assumptions: The Department's financial planning process involves projecting revenues and expenditures over a planning period (typically five years) using various assumptions, including existing debt position, future spending patterns, and other salient variables. As described in the rate filing the Department utilizes the City's Five-Year Plan to formulate some of its assumptions. This is critical as the Department's share of the City's net pension liability totaled \$455 million as of June 30, 2017 as detailed in the response to PWD Non-Current Liabilities. The City's Five-Year Plan is developed by the City's Finance Department and the Director of Finance's office.
- 3) Financial Performance Goals and Metrics used in the Financial Stability Plan ("Plan") submitted by the Department are developed by the Finance Staff at the Department (Melissa LaBuda and Jaclyn Rogers), in consultation with their financial advisors and engineer. The Department, with the support of their financial advisors, conducts peer reviews, reviews rating agency ratios, industry credit publications, and individual credit rate reports in order to develop the goals and objections provided in the Plan.

RESPONSE PROVIDED BY: Katherine Clupper, PFM, Peter Nissen, Acacia Financial and Melissa LaBuda, Philadelphia Water Department

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