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**To:** [Andre Dasent](#); [Anthony Holtzman](#); [Bakare, Adeolu](#); [Brooke Darlington](#); [Carl Schultz](#); [Daniel Cantu-Hertzler](#); [Danielle Lavery](#); [Ed Markus](#); [Frank Paiva](#); [Ji Jun](#); [Joline Price](#); [Joseph Sherick](#); [Josie Pickens](#); [Juliana Martell](#); [Kerrick Jones Jr.](#); [Kintéshia Scott](#); [Lance Haver](#); [Laurice Smith](#); [Michael Blowney](#); [Michael Skindzielewski](#); [Robert Ballenger](#); [Sharon Kesselman](#); [Sonny Popowsky \(spopowsky@gmail.com\)](#); [Steven Liang](#); [Thompson, Jo-Anne](#)  
**Subject:** Haver Motion for Continuance  
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Participants, see below for my determination on the outstanding Motion.

By Motion for Continuance received on March 15, 2021, participant Lance Haver requested that the current proceeding be postponed “. . . until such time as it is known how much of the money set aside under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 will be allocated to the Philadelphia Water Department and how those funds can be used.” Mr. Haver is correct that this may be a significant factor in evaluating the need for any rate relief from PWD’s customers. The Department opposes the need to stay the proceeding. \* The Public Advocate, while not taking a written position on the need for a continuance, did not ask for an extension of time to file its direct testimony, due on March 22, 2021. No other participant commented on the Motion.

**I have decided to hold the Motion in abeyance at this time.** This issue has the potential to represent a material factor for the Rate Board to consider in making its determination. At this point, however, as Mr. Haver noted, it is “unclear exactly how much money PWD will get and how that money will be allocated.” In light of this uncertainty, to stop the proceeding – with no indication as to when it will resume – would be counter-productive, and not in the interest of either PWD or its customers.

We can continue with the schedule that has been adopted, recognizing that it may need to be adjusted to incorporate any known or measurable changes resulting from this recently enacted legislation. It is my hope, especially after hearing the statements presented by the customers at the public hearings asking that potential federal assistance be used in a way to reduce the need for rate increases, that this creates an opportunity for PWD to address this issue, including the impact it may have on the necessity of rate relief from its customers.

**I expect that PWD will seek to determine the benefits it may receive under the Act (or any other federal funding that may be available), and I am directing the Department – aside from any discovery relevant to this issue - to provide substantive information on this issue on the record as soon as possible and to update it as further information becomes available.**

\*In light of my determination to hold the Motion in abeyance at this time, it is not necessary

to address PWD's other arguments as to the Rate Board's jurisdiction, or the impact on the Water Department's financial condition