



# CAPITAL REGION™

## WATER

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **CAPITAL REGION WATER ANNOUNCES PARTIAL CONSENT DECREE WITH REGULATORY AGENCIES**

HARRISBURG (November 25, 2014) – Earlier today, Capital Region Water announced that its Board will be voting on a Partial Consent Decree with the US Department of Justice, US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) after over a year of negotiations.

*“This is a historic regulatory agreement” said CEO Shannon Williams. “After half a dozen years of alleged violations under the Clean Water Act and Pennsylvania Clean Streams law, Capital Region Water is righting the ship to become compliant and improve the health of the Susquehanna River and Paxton Creek.”*

The Partial Consent Decree establishes a framework to develop a plan to reduce combined sewer overflows and improve performance of the system.

Over 80% of Harrisburg is served by this combined system that collects both rainwater and wastewater from homes and businesses. This water is treated at the wastewater plant unless a wet weather event causes the system to overflow at one or more of almost 60 permitted outfalls along Paxton Creek and the Susquehanna River. Harrisburg is one of 772 cities across the country with a combined sewer system.

*“We know our customers are experiencing rising costs in many aspects of their lives. I’m proud to say that there will not be a financial penalty at this time. We’ve developed a strong working relationship with EPA and DEP to protect our local water ways and ensure necessary improvements are implemented in a cost effective manner for our residents. This endeavor will represent a significant investment in the future of the Harrisburg community.”*

Williams encourages customers to visit Capital Region Water’s website ([www.capitalregionwater.com](http://www.capitalregionwater.com)) for more information on the Partial Consent Decree. Customers can also attend and comment at their Board’s public meeting on December 17<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held on the first floor of 212 Locust Street at 6PM.

Capital Region Water took over Harrisburg’s water and sewer system in November 2013. Since that time, the \$50 million Advanced Waste Water Treatment Facility Improvement Project began construction and refinancing in July saved rate payers \$4 million. In 2014, crews have cleaned over 170 inlets, addressed 31 sinkholes, and removed 21 steel plates from the city’s streets. Capital Region Water also continues a system wide data collection, modeling, and planning program.

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For questions or to report problems with your water or sewer service call:  
1-888-510-0606 or find us online at [capitalregionwater.com](http://capitalregionwater.com)