# **NOTICE**

The next Regular Meeting of the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority will be held on Wednesday, November 8, 2017 immediately following the Work Session at 7:00 pm, in the offices of the Authority located at 30 Wyckoff Avenue, Waldwick, New Jersey. Formal action will be taken.

November 3, 2017

#### REGULAR MEETING November 8, 2017

- 1. Meeting called to Order
- 2. Chairman's statement in accordance with C. 231, PL 1975
- 3. Roll Call
- 4. Salute to the Flag
- 5. Chairman's Remarks
- Approval of Minutes Regular Meeting October 17, 2017
   Special Meeting October 17, 2017
- 7. Public Comments (any subject)
- 8. Consideration for approval list of Resolutions attached dated November 8, 2017
- 9. Reports of Committees
  - a. Finance Committee
  - b. Personnel Committee
  - c. Insurance Committee
  - d. Operating Committee
  - e. Strategic Plan Subcommittee
  - f. Buildings and Grounds Committee
  - g. Safety and Security Committee
- 10. Report of Treasurer.
- 11. Report of Counsel.
- 12. Report of Engineer.
- 13. Report of Executive Director.
- 14. Report of Superintendent.
- 15. Old Business.
- 16. New Business.
- 17. Public Comments (on subjects 5 through 16).
- 18. Adjournment.

Rev. Nov. 8, 2017

# LIST OF RESOLUTIONS REGULAR MEETING November 8, 2017

# **RESOLUTIONS**

68-2017	Approval of Vouchers, Payroll and Tax Deposits
69-2017	Resolution Adopting the Personnel Policies and Procedures
70-2017	Resolution Providing for the Declaration of Official Intent Under Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2 to Reimburse Prior Expenditures Related to Various Sewer System Improvements
71-2017	Resolution Amending an Agreement with T&M Associates to Provide Engineering Services
72-2017	Resolution Amending an Agreement with Tighe & Bond to Provide Engineering Services
73-2017	Proposed Sanitary Sewer Extension – 70 Peterson Place, Block 139, Lot 50, Township of Mahwah, New Jersey
74-2017	Authorization to Enter into a Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Allendale
75-2017	Resolution of the Governing Body of the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority Authorizing Salary Adjustments for Certain Non-Collective Bargaining Employees

#### RESOLUTION

#### No. 68-2017

Date: November 8, 2017

# APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS, PAYROLL TRANSFERS, PAYROLL TAX DEPOSITS AND PENSIONS & BENEFITS TRANSFERS

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority has received vouchers in claim for payment of materials supplied and/or rendered; and

**WHEREAS**, the said vouchers have been reviewed and the amount indicated on each voucher has been determined to be due and owing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority has made payroll transfers, payroll tax deposits and Pensions & Benefits transfers for the month of October 2017 and Health Benefits and Dental Benefits transfers for November 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners of the Authority have reviewed the vouchers, payroll transfers, payroll tax deposits, Pensions and Benefits, and Health and Dental Benefits transfers listing on the attached reports and have found them to be in order.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

**RESOLVED,** by the Commissioners of the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, that all vouchers, payroll transfers, payroll tax deposits, Pensions & Benefits and Health and Dental Benefits transfers listed and reports attached hereto, dated November 8, 2017 be and they hereby are approved for payment from the proper accounts as follows:

ACCOUNT: Payroll Account Net Payroll: \$249,353.08

ACCOUNT: Tax Deposit Account

Total: \$114,716.38

ACCOUNT: Health Benefits Contribution Employer

Total Transfer: \$104,453.09

ACCOUNT: Health Benefits Contribution Employee

Total: \$17,914.87

ACCOUNT: Dental Benefits Total Transfer: \$4,302.53

	RESOLUTION					
	No. 68-2017					
Date: November 8, 2017						
APPROVAL O	F VOUCHERS, PAYROLL TRANSFERS, PAYROLL TAX DEPOSITS AND PENSIONS & BENEFITS TRANSFERS					
ACCOUNT: Total Transfer:	PERS and Contributory Insurance \$31,940.18					
ACCOUNT: Total Transfer:	Defined Contribution Retirement Program – Employer \$12.50					
ACCOUNT: Total Transfer:	Defined Contribution Retirement Program – Employee \$22.92					
ACCOUNT: Total:	Operating Account \$344,850.88					
ACCOUNT: Total:	General Improvement Account \$607,656.53					
ACCOUNT: Total:	2015 WWT Project Account \$1,132.22					
	CHAIRMAN					

SECRETARY	£TARY	ŁΕ	ECI	S
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	Bonagura	Chewcaskie	Danubio	DePhillips	Gabbert	Kelaher	Lo Iacono	Plumley	Kasparian
Offered									
Seconded									
Aye									
Nay									
Absent									
Abstain									

RESOLUTION

No. 69-2017

Date: November 8, 2017

#### RESOLUTION ADOPTING PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority to treat employees and prospective employees in a manner consistent with all applicable employment laws and regulations including, but not limited to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Opportunity Act of 1972, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Equal Pay for Equal Work Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Conscientious Employee Protection Act, the Public Employee Occupational Safety and Health Act, the New Jersey Workers Compensation Act, the Federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) and the Open Public Meeting Act; and

**WHEREAS,** the Commissioners of the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority has determined that there is a need for personnel policies and procedures to ensure that employees and prospective employees are treated in a manner consistent with these laws and regulations.

**NOW, THEREBY, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Commissioners of the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority as follows:

- 1. The Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual attached hereto is hereby adopted.
- 2. These personnel policies and procedures shall apply to all Authority officials, appointees, employees, volunteers and independent contractors. In the event there is a conflict between these rules and any collective bargaining agreement, personnel services contract or Federal or State law, the terms and conditions of that contract or law shall prevail. In all other cases, these policies and procedures shall prevail.
- 3. This manual is intended to provide guidelines covering public service by Authority employees and is not a contract. The provisions of this manual may be amended and supplemented from time to time without notice and at the sole discretion of the Commissioners of the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority.

				RESOLUT	ΓΙΟΝ				
No. 69-2017									
			Dat	te: Novemb	er 8, 2017				
	RESOI	LUTION ADO	OPTING	PERSONNE	L POLIC	IES AND P	PROCEDI	URES	
		maximum exe under the le	-	•		-		e Authorit	y shall
5. The Executive Director and all managerial/supervisory personnel are responsible for these employment practices. The Human Resources Officer and the Employment Attorney shall assist the Executive Director in the implementation of the policies and procedures in this manual.									
		CREBY CER roll call vote er 8, 2017.				1 .		-	•
	SECRETA	ARY			C	HAIRMA	N		
	Bonagura	Chewcaskie	Danubio	DePhillips	Gabbert	Lo Iacono	Kelaher	Plumley	Kasparian
Offered									
econded									

	Bonagura	Chewcaskie	Danubio	DePhillips	Gabbert	Lo Iacono	Kelaher	Plumley	Kasparian
Offered									
Seconded									
Aye									
Nay									
Absent									
Abstain									
Recuse									



# POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund November 2017

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# GENERAL PERSONNEL POLICY:\*

It is the policy of the Authority to treat employees and prospective employees in a manner consistent with all applicable employment laws and regulations. The personnel policies and procedures of the Authority shall apply to all employees, volunteers, (elected or) appointed officials and independent contractors. In the event there is a conflict between these rules and any collective bargaining agreement, personnel services contract, or Federal or State law, the terms and conditions of that contract or law shall prevail. In all other cases, these policies and procedures shall prevail.

All employees, officers and Department Heads shall be appointed and promoted by the Commissioners of the Authority. No person shall be employed or promoted unless there exists a position created by a resolution adopted by the Authority as well as the necessary budget appropriation.

The Executive Director and all managerial/supervisory personnel are authorized and responsible for personnel policies and procedures. The Authority has appointed the Administrative Assistant to assist the Executive Director implement personnel practices. The Executive Director and Administrative Assistant shall also have access to the Attorney appointed by the Authority for guidance in personnel matters.

As a general principle, the Authority has a "no tolerance" policy towards workplace wrongdoing. Authority officials, employees and independent contractors are to report anything perceived to be improper. The Authority believes strongly in an Open Door Policy and encourages employees to talk with their supervisor, Department Head, Executive Director, and Administrative Assistant.

The Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual adopted by the NBCUA is intended to provide guidelines covering public service by Authority employees and is not a contract. This manual contains many, but not necessarily all of the rules, regulations, and conditions of employment for Authority personnel. The provisions of this manual may be amended and supplemented from time to time without notice and at the sole discretion of the Authority.

To the maximum extent permitted by law, the employment practices of the Authority shall operate under the legal doctrine known, as "employment at will." Within Federal and State law, and any applicable bargaining unit agreement, the Authority shall have the right to terminate an employee at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, except the Authority shall comply with all Federal and State legal requirements requiring notice and an opportunity to be heard in the event of discipline or dismissal.

# **SECTION ONE - Policies Relating to Employee Rights and Obligations:**

# **Anti-Discrimination Policy:\***

The Northwest Bergen County Utility Authority (NBCUA) is committed to the principle of equal employment opportunity and anti-discrimination pursuant to Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act as amended by the Equal Opportunity Act of 1972 and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination as amended by the New Jersey Pregnant Worker's Fairness Act (LAD). Under no circumstances will the Authority discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital or political status, affectional or sexual orientation, domestic partnership status, civil union status, atypical heredity, cellular or blood trait, genetic information, disability (including AIDS or HIV infection), pregnancy (including pregnancy related medical condition), childbirth, liability for service in the United States armed forces, gender identity or expression, and/or any other characteristic protected by law. Decisions regarding the hiring, promotion, transfer, demotion or termination are based solely on the qualifications and performance of the employee or prospective employee. If any employee or prospective employee feels they have been treated unfairly, they have the right to address their concern with their supervisor, or if they prefer their Department Head, Executive Director or the Administrative Assistant.

# Americans with Disabilities Act Policy/New Jersey Pregnant Worker's Fairness Act:\*

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the ADA Amendments Act and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, as amended by the New Jersey Pregnant Worker's Fairness Act (LAD), the Authority does not discriminate based on disability, pregnancy, pregnancy related medical condition or childbirth. The Authority will endeavor to make every work environment handicap accessible and all future construction and renovation of facilities will be in accordance with applicable barrier-free Federal and State regulations and the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines, as well as the ADA Amendments Act.

It is the policy of the Authority to comply with all relevant and applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the ADA Amendments Act and LAD. We will not discriminate against any qualified employee or job applicant with respect to any terms, conditions, or privileges of employment on the basis of a known or perceived disability, pregnancy, childbirth or pregnancy related medical condition. We will also make reasonable accommodations to known physical or mental limitations of all employees and applicants with disabilities or pregnant, provided that the individual is otherwise qualified to safely perform the essential functions of the job and also provided that the accommodation does not impose undue hardship on the Authority.

The Executive Director shall engage in an interactive dialogue with disabled/pregnant employees and prospective disabled/pregnant employees to identify reasonable accommodations or their respective physician. All decisions with regard to reasonable accommodation shall be made by the Executive Director. Employees who are assigned to a new position as a reasonable accommodation will receive the salary for their new position. The Americans with Disabilities Act does not require the Authority to offer permanent "light duty", relocate essential job functions, or provide personal use items such as eyeglasses, hearing aids, wheelchairs, etc.

Employees should also offer assistance, to the extent possible, to any member of the public who request or needs an accommodation when visiting Authority facilities. Any questions concerning proper assistance should be directed to the Executive Director.

# Contagious or Life Threatening Illnesses Policy:\*

The Authority encourages employees with contagious diseases or life-threatening illnesses to continue their normal pursuits, including work, to the extent allowed by their condition. The Authority shall make reasonable accommodations to known physical and mental limitations of all employees, provided that the individual is otherwise qualified to safely perform the essential functions of the job and also provided that the accommodation does not impose an unreasonable hardship on the Authority. The Authority will take reasonable precautions to protect such information from inappropriate disclosure, including the following:

- Medical information may be disclosed with the prior written informed consent of the person who is the subject of the information.
- Information may be disclosed without the prior written consent to qualified individuals for the purpose of conducting management audits, financial audits, and program evaluations, but these individuals shall not identify, either directly or indirectly, the person who is the subject of the record in a report or evaluation, or otherwise disclose the person's identity in any manner. Information shall not be released to these individuals unless it is vital to the audit or evaluation.
- Information may be disclosed to the Department of Health as required by State or Federal law.

Managers and other employees have a responsibility to maintain the confidentiality of employee medical information. Anyone inappropriately disclosing such information shall be subject to disciplinary action.

# **Safety Policy:**

The Authority will provide a safe and healthy work environment and shall comply with the Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health Act (PEOSHA). The Authority is equally concerned about the safety of the public. Consistent with this policy, employees will receive periodic safety training and will be provided with appropriate safety equipment. Employees are responsible for observing safety rules and using available safety devices including personal

protective equipment. Failure to do so constitutes grounds for disciplinary action. Any occupational or public unsafe condition, practice, procedure or act must be immediately reported to the supervisor or Department Head. Any on-the-job accident or accident involving Authority facilities, equipment or motor vehicles must also be immediately reported to the supervisor or Department Head.

# **Transitional Duty (Light Duty) Policy:**

The Authority will endeavor to bring employees with work- related temporary disabilities back on the job as soon as possible and may assign transitional duty to employees who temporarily cannot perform the essential functions of their positions because of injury or illness. Transitional duty is not guaranteed and will not exceed 60 workdays. If a department already has one employee on transitional duty, it is unlikely that another employee from that department will be assigned transitional duty.

An employee requesting transitional duty or the Workers Compensation Physician shall notify the Executive Director as soon as the temporarily disabled employee is able to return to work with restrictions. Transitional duty will only be assigned if the employee will probably be able to perform the essential functions of the position after the transitional duty period. Transitional duty assignments may be in any department and not just the employee's normal department. The Executive Director will decide if it is in the best interest of the Authority to approve a transitional duty request and will notify the employee of the decision. The Authority reserves the right to terminate the transitional duty assignment at any time without cause.

Employees may not refuse transitional duty assignments. In such cases, failure to report to work as directed shall constitute immediate grounds for dismissal. If the employee believes that the transitional duty assignment is beyond the employee's abilities, the employee may request a meeting with the Executive Director who will render a written response within 24 hours.

Employees on transitional duty will receive their regular salaries and are prohibited from engaging in any outside employment of any kind unless they receive prior written approval from the Executive Director. If transitional duty is approved, the employee or Workers Compensation Physician must keep the Executive Director informed of the medical progress. (Employees assigned to transitional duty will be allotted time off to attend medical or physical therapy appointments but must request leave time for any other reason.) If at the end of transitional duty period the employee is not able to return to work without restrictions, the Authority reserves the right at its sole discretion to extend the transitional duty or place the employee back on Workers Compensation or disability. This policy does not affect an employee's rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Contagious or Life Threatening Illnesses Policy or other Federal or State law.

# **Drugs and Alcohol Policy:\***

The Authority recognizes that the possession or use of unlawful drugs and the abuse of alcohol pose a threat to the health and safety of all employees. The Authority has adopted a Drug and Alcohol policy which is appended to this Manual.

# **Workplace Violence Policy:\***

The Authority will not tolerate workplace violence. Violent acts or threats made by an employee against another person or property are cause for immediate dismissal and will be fully prosecuted. This includes any violence or threats made on Authority property, at Authority events or under other circumstances that may negatively affect the Authority's ability to conduct business.

#### Prohibited conduct includes:

- Physically striking another person;
- Causing physical injury to another person;
- Making threatening remarks;
- Aggressive, hostile, or bullying behavior that creates a reasonable fear of injury to another person or subjects another individual to emotional distress;
- Intentionally damaging employer property or property of another employee;
- Possession of a firearm while on Authority property or while on Authority business except with the authority of the Police Chief; and
- Committing acts motivated by, or related to, sexual harassment or domestic violence.

Any potentially dangerous situations must be immediately reported. The Authority will actively intervene in any potentially hostile or violent situation.

# **General Anti-Harassment Policy:\***

It is the Authority's policy to prohibit harassment of an employee by another employee, management representative, supplier, volunteer, or business invitee on the basis of actual or perceived sex, race, creed, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital or political status, affectional or sexual orientation, domestic partnership status, civil union status, atypical heredity, cellular or blood trait, genetic information, disability (including AIDS or HIV

infection), gender identity or expression, liability for service in the United States armed forces, and/or any other characteristic protected by law. Harassment of non-employees by our employees is also prohibited. While it is not easy to define precisely what harassment is, it includes slurs, epithets, threats, derogatory comments, unwelcome jokes, teasing, caricatures or representations of persons using electronically or physically altered photos, drawings, or images, and other similar verbal written, printed or physical conduct.

If an employee is witness to or believes to have experienced harassment, immediate notification of the supervisor or other appropriate person should take place. See the Employee Complaint Policy.

Harassment of any employees, in connection with their work, by non-employees may also be a violation of this policy. Any employee who experiences harassment by a non-employee, or who observes harassment of an employee by a non-employee should report such harassment to the supervisor. Appropriate action will be taken against any non-employee.

Notification of appropriate personnel of any harassment problem is essential to the success of this policy and the Authority generally. The Authority cannot resolve a harassment problem unless it knows about it. Therefore, it is the responsibility of all employees to bring those kinds of problems to attention of the appropriate officials so that steps are taken to correct them.

Violation of this harassment policy will subject employees to disciplinary action, up to and including immediate discharge.

The Authority agrees to provide a training program for harassment in the workplace for all employees. Such training shall be provided by a consultant experienced with the policies of the State of New Jersey and/or by the New Jersey Joint Insurance Fund (NJJIF).

# **Anti-Sexual Harassment Policy:\***

It is the Authority's policy to prohibit sexual harassment of an employee by another employee, management representative, supplier, volunteer, or business invitee. The Authority prohibits sexual harassment from occurring in the workplace or at any other location at which Authority sponsored activity takes place. Sexual harassment of non-employees by our employees is also prohibited. The purpose of this policy is not to regulate personal morality or to encroach upon one's personal life, but to demonstrate a strong commitment to maintaining a workplace free of sexual harassment.

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal, physical or visual conduct of a sexual nature constitute harassment when:

• Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment;

- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for an employment decision affecting the individual; or
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.

Regarding unwelcome sexual advances toward non-employees, requests for sexual favors and other verbal, physical or visual conduct of a sexual nature constitute harassment when:

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly in exchange for a benefit;
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for a decision affecting the individual; or
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's activities or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

Sexual harassment may include unwanted sexual advances; offering employment benefits in exchange for sexual favors; visual conduct (leering, making sexual gestures, displaying of sexually suggestive objects or pictures, cartoons or posters); verbal sexual advances, propositions or requests; verbal abuse of a sexual nature; graphic verbal commentaries about an individual's body; sexually degrading words used to describe an individual; suggestive or obscene letters, caricatures or representations of persons using electronically or physically altered photos, drawings, or images; notes or invitations; and/or, physical conduct (touching, assault, impeding or blocking movements).

If an employee is witness to or believes that the employee has experienced sexual harassment, they must immediately notify their supervisor or other appropriate person. <u>See</u> the Employee Complaint Policy.

Harassment of Authority employees, in connection with their work, by non-employees may also be a violation of this policy. Any employee who experiences harassment by a non-employee, or who observes harassment of an employee by a non-employee should report such harassment to their supervisor. Appropriate action will be taken against any non-employee.

Notification by employee to appropriate personnel of any harassment problem is essential to the success of this policy and the Authority generally. The Authority cannot resolve a harassment problem unless it is reported. Therefore, it is the responsibility of all employees to bring those kinds of problems to the attention of management so that steps are necessary to correct them.

Violation of this sexual harassment policy will subject employees to disciplinary action, up to and including immediate discharge.

#### "Whistle Blower" Policy:\*

Employees have the right under the "Conscientious Employee Protection Act (CEPA)" to complain about any activity, policy or practice that the employees reasonably believe is in violation of a law, rule, or regulation promulgated pursuant to law without fear of retaliation or reprisal. This right shall be communicated to all employees in an annual letter outlining the specific employee complaint procedure and in a posted notice. A written acknowledgement that the employee received, read, and understood this letter will be included in the employee's official personnel file. The annual notice shall be in English and Spanish and must contain the name of the person who is designated to receive written notification of policies or practices that might violate CEPA. This right will also be communicated in the Employee Handbook. All complaints will be taken seriously and promptly investigated.

The Authority shall not take any retaliatory action or tolerate any reprisal against an employee for any of the following:

- Disclosing or threatening to disclose to a supervisor, Department Head, the Executive Director, other official or to a public body, as defined in the Conscientious Employee Protection Act (N.J.S.A. 34:19-1 et seq.) an activity, policy or practice that the employee reasonably believes is in violation of a law, a rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to law;
- Providing information to, or testifying before any public body conducting an investigation, hearing, an inquiry into any violation of law, or a rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to law; or
- Objecting to, or refusing to participate in any activity, policy, or practice that the employee reasonably believes is a violation of a law, rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to law; is fraudulent or criminal; or is incompatible with a clear public policy mandate concerning the public health, safety, or welfare.

In accordance with the statute, the employee must bring the violation to the attention of his/her supervisor. However, disclosure is not required where (1) the employee is reasonably certain that the violation is known to one or more officials; (2) where the employee reasonably fears physical harm; or (3) the situation is emergency in nature. Employees are encouraged to complain in writing using the Employee Complaint form. See Employee Complaint Policy. Under the law, the employee must give the Authority a reasonable opportunity to correct the activity, policy or practice. The administration of whistle blower complaints is not subject to the limitations in the Grievance Policy.

# **Employee Complaint Policy:\***

Employees who observe actions they believe to constitute harassment, sexual harassment, or any other workplace wrongdoing should immediately report the matter to their supervisor, or, if they prefer, or do not think that the matter can be discussed with their supervisor, they should contact the Department Head, Human Resources Officer or the Executive Director. Reporting of such incidents is encouraged both when an employee feels that he or she is subject to such incidents, or observes such incidents in reference to other employees. Employees should report incidents in writing using the Employee Complaint form, but may make a verbal complaint at their discretion. If the employee has any questions about what constitutes harassment, sexual harassment, or any other workplace wrongdoing, they may ask their supervisor or one of the individuals listed above. All reports of harassment, sexual harassment, or other wrongdoing will be promptly investigated by a person who is not involved in the alleged harassment or wrongdoing.

No employee will be penalized in any way for reporting a complaint. There will be no discrimination or retaliation against any individual who files a good faith harassment complaint, even if the investigation produces insufficient evidence to support the complaint, and even if the charges cannot be proven. There will be no discrimination or retaliation against any other individual who participates in the investigation of a complaint.

If the investigation substantiates the complaint, appropriate corrective and/or disciplinary action will be swiftly pursued. Disciplinary action up to and including discharge will also be taken against individuals who make false or frivolous accusations, such as those made maliciously or recklessly. Actions taken internally to investigate and resolve harassment complaints will be conducted confidentially to the extent practicable and appropriate in order to protect the privacy of persons involved. Any investigation may include interviews with the parties involved in the incident, and if necessary, with individuals who may have observed the incident or conduct or who have other relevant knowledge. The complaining employee will be notified of a decision at the conclusion of the investigation within a reasonable time from the date of the report an incident.

# **Grievance Policy:**

A grievance is any formal dispute concerning the interpretation, application and enforcement of any personnel policy or procedure of the Authority. The Authority believes that all employees should have the right to due process in the resolution of any complaint arising out of discipline received by an employee.

This appeal policy/grievance procedure shall apply to all employees who are not covered by a Collective Bargaining Agreement. All employees covered by the Agreement shall be governed by their contractual grievance procedure.

A grievance is a complaint by any employee that he or she has been arbitrarily, capriciously or discriminatorily treated by any supervisor or denied a benefit set forth in this Manual.

Employees are encouraged to raise their grievances promptly so that matters can be investigated and settled without undue delay. In no event will a routine grievance be processed beyond thirty (30) days of its occurrence.

An employee may gain consideration of his grievance by taking the following action:

#### Step 1.

The grievance shall be discussed verbally between the employee, and his or her immediate Supervisor.

#### Step 2.

If the matter is not satisfactorily settled at Step 1, it shall be reduced to writing and presented to the Superintendent.

#### Step 3.

If the matter is not satisfactorily settled at Step 2, it shall be presented to the Executive Director of the Authority, or his designee.

#### Step 4.

If the matter is not satisfactorily settled at Step 3, a meeting is to be arranged by the Executive Director with the Personnel Committee for discussion of the written grievance.

#### **Step 5.**

If the matter is not satisfactorily resolved at Step 4, the employee may request to meet with the Commissioners to present and explain the grievance.

# **Access to Personnel Files Policy:\***

The official personnel file for each employee shall be maintained by the Administrative Assistant. Personnel files are confidential records that must be secured in a locked cabinet and will only be available to authorized managerial and supervisory personnel on a need-to-know basis. Records relating to any medical condition will be maintained in a separate file. Electronic personnel and medical records must be protected from unauthorized access. Any employee may review their file in the presence of the Administrative Assistant or the Executive Director upon reasonable notice.

# Conflict of Interest Policy:\*

Employees including Authority officials must conduct business according to the highest ethical standards of public service. Employees are expected to devote their best efforts to the interests of the Authority. Violations of this policy will result in appropriate discipline including termination.

The Authority recognizes the right of employees to engage in outside activities that are private nature and unrelated to Authority business. However, business dealings that appear to create a conflict between the employee and the Authority's interests are unlawful under the New Jersey Local Government Ethics Act. Under the Act, certain employees and officials are required to annually file a state mandated disclosure form. The Authority Administrative Assistant will notify employees and Authority officials subject to the filing requirements of the Act.

A potential or actual conflict of interest occurs whenever an employee including an Authority official is in a position to influence an Authority decision that may result in a personal gain for the employee or an immediate relative including a spouse or significant other, child, parent, stepchild, sibling, grandparents, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, grandchildren, niece, nephew, uncle, aunt, or any person related by blood or marriage residing in an employee's household. Employees are required to disclose possible conflicts so that the Authority may assess and prevent potential conflicts. If there are any questions whether an action or proposed course of conduct would create a conflict of interest, immediately contact the Executive Director to obtain clarification.

Employees are allowed to hold outside employment as long as it does not interfere with their Authority responsibilities. Employees are prohibited from engaging in outside employment activities while on the job or using Authority time, supplies or equipment in the outside employment activities. The Executive Director may request employees to restrict outside employment if the quality of Authority work diminishes. Any employees who holds an interest in, or is employed by, any business doing business with the Authority must submit a written notice of these outside interests to the Executive Director.

Employees may not accept donations, gratuities, contributions or gifts that could be interpreted to affect their Authority duties. Under no circumstances accept donations, gratuities, contributions or gifts from a vendor doing business with or seeking to do business with the Authority or any person or firm seeking to influence Authority decisions. Employees are required to report to the Executive Director any offer of a donation, gratuity, contribution or gift including meals and entertainment that is in violation of this policy.

# **Political Activity Policy:\***

Employees have exactly the same right as any other citizen to join political organizations and participate in political activities, as long as they maintain a clear separation between their official responsibilities and their political affiliations. Employees are prohibited from engaging in political activities while performing their public duties and from using Authority time, supplies or equipment in any political activity. Any violation of this policy must be reported to the supervisor, Department Head, Executive Director, Administrative Assistant or the Authority Attorney

# **Employee Evaluation Policy:\***

The supervisor (Superintendent, Administrative Assistant or Executive Director) may complete a written evaluation and appraisal form for every employee not covered by the Collective Bargaining Agreement to measure progress and to encourage self-improvement. The evaluation will also record additional duties performed, educational courses completed as well as a plan to correct any weak points using the Employee Counseling form. After completing the evaluation, the supervisor will review the results with the employee and return the form(s) with the signed acknowledgement to the Executive Director. After review by the Executive Director, the form(s) are to be forwarded to the Administrative Assistant for inclusion in the employee's official personnel file. As a part of the evaluation, employees have the right to request a conference with the Executive Director or Administrative Assistant.

# **Employee Discipline Policy:\***

The Authority retains the sole right to discipline or discharge employees for cause. Cause for discharge shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- a. proven theft of Authority or employee property;
- b. possession of or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages or nonprescribed drugs on company property;
- c. calling or participating in an unauthorized walkout, job action, or strike;
- d. proven assault or fighting while on company time;
- e. proven deliberate damage to company property;
- f. excessive absenteeism or tardiness;
- g. immoral or indecent conduct;
- h. insubordination or failure to follow instructions;
- i. falsification of records;
- i. abusive behavior toward coworkers or supervisory personnel;
- k. punching other employees' clock cards;
- l. violation of safety rules;
- m. smoking in areas where smoking is prohibited;
- n. gambling on company premises;
- o. leaving post without permission of the supervisor;
- p. leaving post before the relief shift or person has arrived;
- q. failure to fully perform job duties whether or not in response to a direct instruction (including failure to apply knowledge expected of an advanced license holder when the employee is receiving a license incentive);
- r. any other sufficient cause including conduct on the part of any employee of such nature as to disturb the harmonious relations between the Authority and the Group
- s. violation of the drug and alcohol policy

- t. conduct unbecoming of a public employee
- u. causing damage to an Authority vehicle or equipment and/or causing a violation of Federal/State regulations as to plant operations or maintenance

Major disciplinary action includes termination, disciplinary demotion or suspension. Minor discipline includes a formal, written reprimand or a suspension. Employees who object to the terms or conditions of the discipline are entitled to a hearing under the applicable grievance procedure. In every case involving employee discipline, employees will be provided with an opportunity to respond to charges either verbally or in writing.

In cases of employee misconduct, the Authority believes in corrective action for the purpose of correcting undesirable behavior and preventing a recurrence of that behavior. The corrective action taken will be related to the gravity of the situation, the number and kind of previous infractions and other circumstances. In every case, employees will be given an opportunity to state the situation from their point of view.

In order to correct undesirable behavior, supervisors and managers may utilize the following corrective tools: verbal reprimand; written reprimand; suspension and dismissal. At the discretion of the Authority, action may begin at any step, and/or certain steps may be repeated or by-passed, depending on the severity and nature of the infraction and the employee's work/disciplinary record.

Notice of appeal from discharge must be made to the Executive Director, in writing, within five (5) working days (Monday through Friday) from the date of the discharge.

The inadvertent failure to discipline or discharge in any particular instance shall not be deemed a waiver of the Authority's right with respect to future instances, or as a precedent for other instances involving the same or other employees or conduct.

Neither this manual nor any other Authority guidelines, policies or practices create an employment contract. Employment with the Authority may be terminated at any time with or without cause or reason by the employee or Authority.

# **Resignation Policy:**

Resignation is a voluntary action of an employee notifying the Authority of intent to leave his/her position. All employees are required to give two (2) weeks' notice to the Executive Director or his/her designee prior to their voluntary termination of employment. This notice shall be a condition precedent to the employee's entitlement to any unused and accumulated vacation or sick leave.

After giving notice of resignation, employees are expected to assist their supervisor and coemployees by providing information concerning their current projects and help in the training of a replacement. During the last two weeks, the employee may not use paid time off except paid holidays. The Department Head will prepare an Employee Action form showing any pay or other money owed the employee. The Authority will conduct a confidential exit interview to discuss benefits including COBRA options, appropriate retirement issues and pay due. A COBRA notification letter will be sent to the employee's home address. The exit interview will also include an open discussion with the employee. On the last day of work, and prior to receiving the final paycheck, the employee must return the Employee Identification Card, all keys and equipment. At this time, the employee will sign the termination memo designating all money owed and this memo will be retained in the official personnel file.

# Work Force Reduction/Seniority Policy:\*

After the probationary period, seniority shall be determined upon the length of service with the Authority from the original date of hire.

To the extent allowed by New Jersey statutes, court decisions and reported decisions of the Public Employment Relations Commission, the Authority agrees that, given equal qualifications as determined at the sole discretion of the Authority, the more senior of equally qualified candidates should receive the promotion.

The Authority shall notify all employees of layoff, simultaneously with posting of any vacancy on the bulletin board, to facilitate all members of the bargaining unit having the opportunity to apply for promotions. To the extent allowed by New Jersey statutes, court decisions and reported decisions of the Public Employment Relations Commission, the parties agree that given equal qualifications, as determined at the sole discretion of the Authority, the most senior employee on layoff shall be given preference, even over a more senior employee still working at the Authority. Employees on layoff shall have five (5) calendar days from receipt of the notice to indicate their interest in the vacancy by phone, registered or certified mail, but in no event later than ten (10) calendar days after posting and sending of notice. The same form of notice shall be served upon employees on layoff as the notice posted. Such notice shall set forth the title of the job to be filled, anticipated hours of work and days of relief, the rate of pay and an outline of duties, as well as the person to contact.

When a job vacancy occurs in a job classification, a notice of such vacancy shall be posted on the Group bulletin board and sent to employees on layoff for ten (10) calendar days. Employees interested in obtaining the job may bid for same by submitting a completed Personnel Action Form and any other information on their qualifications within the ten (10) calendar day posting period.

It is understood and agreed that the Authority has the exclusive right to terminate or otherwise discipline any employees who are on a temporary basis or who are within their probationary period and in such event said employees shall have no recourse to any of the provisions within this Agreement nor shall they have any specific recourse to the grievance procedure.

Seniority and the employees' rights shall be terminated and lost for any of the following reasons:

- a. when an employee quits;
- b. when an employee is discharged;
- c. when an employee is laid off for a continuous period of twelve (12) months;
- d. when an employee fails to return upon expiration of leave of absence;
- e. accepting other employment when on a requested leave of absence;
- f. if an employee fails, on recall from lay-off, to comply with notice and reporting requirements following the receipt of notification of recall; and,
- g. except for extraordinary circumstances, when an employee is absent for three (3) consecutive working days without reporting. (It is understood, of course, that it is necessary for an employee to make an immediate report of any absence from work.)

All layoffs shall be in the inverse order of seniority, i.e., the last person hired shall be the first person laid off; provided, however, that the senior employee has the demonstrated ability to immediately perform the available work to the sole satisfaction of the Authority.

In the event of a recall, employees shall be called back in seniority order, i.e., the last person laid off shall be the first person recalled; provided, however that the recalled employee(s) have the demonstrated ability to perform the available work to the sole satisfaction of the Authority. The laid off employees shall be given notice of recall by registered or certified mail, sent to the address last given to the Executive Director or his/her designee by the employee. It shall be the responsibility of the employee to keep the Executive Director or his/her designee informed of the employee's current address and telephone number. Within five (5) calendar days after receipt of the notice, the employee must notify the Executive Director or his/her designee by telephone, or registered or certified mail, of his/her intent to return to work, and must actually report on the date specified in the recall notice, unless it is mutually agreed, in writing, that the employee need not return to work within said time or in the event that the recall notice is for another period. Every attempt shall be made to give at least one (1) week's notice of recall before the actual reporting date. In the event the employee fails to comply with these requirements, he/she shall lose all seniority rights under this Agreement and shall be considered as a voluntary quit.

With respect to Bargaining Unit Employees, the Authority shall have the right to temporarily transfer employees for a period not to exceed sixty (60) working days, in which event and during which time the employee shall receive the higher rate of pay for either the new job or the employee's old job. Said person may be extended for as long as the Authority is making a good faith effort to permanently fill the job. The transfer does not cover intermittent or short-term (ten (10) working days or less) assignments.

The Authority shall submit a seniority list of bargaining unit employees to the Chief Shop Steward on an annual basis, unless there is a change.

# **Driver's License Policy:\***

Any employee whose work requires that the operation of Authority vehicles must hold a valid New Jersey State Driver's License.

All new employees who will be assigned work entailing the operating of an Authority vehicle will be required to submit to a Department of Motor Vehicles driving records check as a condition of employment. A report indicating a suspended or revoked license status may be cause to deny or terminate employment.

Periodic checks of employee's drivers' licenses through visual and formal Department of Motor Vehicles review checks shall be made by the Authority. Any employee who does not hold a valid driver's license will not be allowed to operate an Authority vehicle until such time as a valid license is obtained.

Any employee performing work which requires the operation of an Authority vehicle must notify the immediate supervisor in those cases where a license is expired, suspended or revoked and/or who is unable to obtain an occupational permit from the State Department of Licensing. An employee that fails to report such an instance is subject to disciplinary action, including demotion or termination. An employee who fails to immediately report such revocation or suspension to their supervisor and continues to operate an Authority vehicle shall be subject to possible termination.

Any information obtained by the Authority in accordance with this section shall be used by the Authority only for carrying out its lawful functions and for other lawful purposes in accordance with the Driver's Privacy Protection Act (18 U.S.C. S 2721 et seq.)

# **SECTION TWO - Workplace Policies:**

#### **Job Description Policy:\***

A job description including qualifications shall be maintained for each position (pursuant to New Jersey Department of Personnel guidelines if the position is subject to Civil Service.) All job descriptions must be approved by the Executive Director. The Administrative Assistant will make copies available upon request.

#### **Dress Code Policy:**

Dress, grooming and personal hygiene must be appropriate for the position. Collective bargaining unit employees shall be required to wear Authority-issued clothing at all times; no outside clothing shall be worn while the employee is working. All other employees are required to dress in a manner that is normally acceptable in similar establishments and consistent with applicable safety standards. Employees shall not wear suggestive attire. The Authority will make reasonable religious accommodations that do not violate safety standards. Employees violating this policy shall be required to take corrective action or will be sent home without pay.

# **No Smoking Policy:**

The New Jersey Legislature has declared that in all governmental buildings the rights of non-smokers to breathe clean air supersedes the rights of smokers. In accordance with State law, the Authority has adopted a smoke-free policy for all buildings. Authority facilities shall be smoke-free and no employee or visitor will be permitted to smoke anywhere in Authority buildings. Employees are permitted to smoke only outside Authority buildings and such locations as not to allow the re-entry of smoke into building entrances. Smoking inside vehicles owned by the Authority and near equipment that may be sensitive to smoke is also prohibited. This policy shall be strictly enforced and any employee found in violation will be subject to disciplinary action.

# **Use of Vehicles Policy:**

Authority owned vehicles shall be used only on official business and all passengers must be on Authority business. Vehicles may be taken home only with the advance approval of the Department Head to facilitate responses to after-hours emergency calls. When an employee takes home an Authority vehicle, it is to be used only for official Authority business; any other use is not permitted. Any violation of this policy constitutes cause for disciplinary action.

Please refer to the Collective Bargaining Agreement for collective bargaining unit employees.

# **Telephone Usage Policy:**

Authority telephones are for official use only.

# **Communication Media Policy: \***

The Authority's Communication Media are the property of the Authority and, as such, are to be used for legitimate business purposes only. For purposes of this Communication Media Policy, "Communication Media" includes all electronic media forms provided by the Authority such as cell phones, smart phones, computers, electronic tablets, access to the internet, voicemail, email, and fax.

All data stored on and/or transmitted through Communication Media is the property of the Authority. For purposes of this policy, "Data" includes "electronically-stored files, programs, tables, data bases, audio and video objects, spreadsheets, reports and printed or microfiche materials which serve an Authority business purpose, regardless of who creates, processes or maintains the data, or whether the data is processed manually or though any of the Authority's mainframe, midrange or workstations; servers, routers, gateways, bridges, hubs, switches and other hardware components of the Authority's local or wide-area networks."

The Authority respects the individual privacy of its employees. However, employee communications transmitted by the Authority's Communication Media are not private to the individual. All Communication Media and all communications and stored information transmitted, received, or contained in or through such media may be monitored by the Authority. The Authority reserves the absolute right to access, review, audit and disclose all matters entered into, sent over, placed in storage in the Authority's Communication Media. By using the Authority's equipment and/or Communication Media, employees consent to have such use monitored at any time, with or without notice, by Authority personnel. The existence of passwords does not restrict or eliminate the Authority's ability or right to access electronic communications. However, the Authority cannot require the employee to provide its password to his/her personal account.

All email, voicemail and Internet messages (including any technology-based messaging) are official documents subject to the provisions of the Open Public Records Act (NJSA 47:1A-1). Employees of the Authority are required to use the assigned municipal email account for ALL Authority business and correspondence. The use of private email accounts for ANY Authority business or during business hours is strictly prohibited.

Employees can only use the Authority's Communication Media for legitimate business purposes. Employees may not use Authority's Communication Media in any way that is defamatory, obscene, or harassing or in violation of any Authority rules or policy. Examples of forbidden transmissions or downloads include sexually-explicit messages; unwelcome propositions; ethnic or racial slurs; or any other message that can be construed to be harassment or disparaging to others based on their actual or perceived age, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, disability, national

origin, ethnicity, citizenship, marital status or any other legally recognized protected basis under federal, state or local laws, regulations or ordinances.

All employees, who have been granted access to electronically-stored data, must use a logon ID assigned by the Authority. Certain data, or applications that process data, may require additional security measures as determined by the Authority. Employees must not share their passwords; and each employee is responsible for all activity that occurs in connection with their passwords.

All employees may access only data for which the Authority has given permission. All employees must take appropriate actions to ensure that Authority data is protected from unauthorized access, use or distribution consistent with these policies. Employees may not access or retrieve any information technology resource and store information other than where authorized.

Employees must not disable anti-virus and other implemented security software for any reason, in order to minimize the risk of introducing computer viruses into the Authority's computing environment.

Employees may not install *or Modify* ANY hardware device, software application, program code, either active or passive, or a portion thereof, without the express written permission from the Authority. Employees may not upload, download, or otherwise transmit commercial software or any copyrighted materials belonging to parties outside of the Authority, or licensed to the Authority. Employees shall observe the copyright and licensing restrictions of all software applications and shall not copy software from internal or external sources unless legally authorized.

Social Media and its uses in government and daily life are expanding each year however, information posted on a website is available to the public; therefore, employees must adhere to the following guidelines for their participation in social media.

Only those Employees directly authorized by the Executive Director may engage in social media activity during work time through the use of the Authority's Communication Media, as it directly relates to their work and it is in compliance with this policy.

Employees must not reveal or publicize confidential Authority information. Confidential proprietary or sensitive information may be disseminated only to individuals with a need and a right to know, and where there is sufficient assurance that appropriate security of such information will be maintained. Such information includes, but is not limited to the transmittal of personnel information such as medical records or related information. In law enforcement operations, confidential, proprietary or sensitive information also includes criminal history information, confidential informant identification, and intelligence and tactical operations files.

No Authority Employee shall post internal working documents to social media sites. This includes, but is not limited to, screenshots of computer stations, pictures of monitors and/or actual documents themselves. In addition employees are prohibited from releasing or

disclosing any photographs, pictures, digital images of any crime scenes, traffic crashes, arrestees, detainees, people or job related incident or occurrence taken with the Authority's Communication Media to any person, entity, business or media or Internet outlet whether on or off duty without the express written permission of the Executive Director. Except in "emergency situations," Employees are prohibited from taking digital images or photographs with media equipment not owned by the Authority. For purposes of this section, an "emergency situation" involves a sudden and unforeseen combination of circumstances or the resulting state that calls for immediate action, assistance or relief, and may include accidents, crimes and flights from accidents or crimes and the employee does not have access to the Authority's Communication Media. If such situation occurs, employee agrees that any images belong to the Authority and agree to release the image to the Authority and ensure its permanent deletion from media device upon direction from the Authority.

No media advertisement, electronic bulletin board posting, or any other communication accessible via the Internet about the Authority or on behalf of the Authority, whether through the use of the Authority's Communication Media or otherwise, may be issued unless it has first been approved by the Executive Director. Under no circumstances may information of a confidential, sensitive or otherwise proprietary nature be placed or posted on the Internet or otherwise disclosed to anyone outside the Authority. Such unauthorized communications may result in disciplinary action.

Because (authorized) postings placed on the Internet through use of the Authority's Communication Media will display on the Authority's return address, any information posted on the Internet must reflect and adhere to all of the Authority's standards and policies.

All users are personally accountable for messages that they originate or forward using the Authority's Communication Media. Misrepresenting, obscuring, suppressing, or replacing a user's identity on any Communication Media is prohibited. "Spoofing" (constructing electronic communications so that it appears to be from someone else) is prohibited.

Employees must respect the laws regarding copyrights, trademarks, rights of public Authority and other third-party rights. Any use of the Authority's name, logos, service marks or trademarks outside the course of the employee's employment, without the express consent of the Authority's is strictly prohibited. To minimize the risk of a copyright violation, employees should provide references to the source(s) of information used and cite copyrighted works identified in online communications.

If employees choose to identify themselves as an Authority employee on their personal social media accounts and even those that do not should be aware that he or she may be viewed as acting on behalf of the Authority, as such no employee shall knowingly represent themselves as a spokesperson of the Authority, post any comment, text, photo, audio, video or other multimedia file that negatively reflects upon the Authority expresses views that are detrimental to the Authority's mission or undermine the public trust or is insulting or offensive to other individuals or to the public in regard to religion, sex, race or national origin. Authority employees are encouraged to exercise extreme caution posting photographs of themselves in uniform or in situations where they can be readily identified as Authority employees.

Nothing in these policies is designed to interfere with, restrain or prevent employee communications regarding wages, hours or other terms and conditions of employment. Authority employees have the right to engage in or refrain from such activities.

# **Bulletin Board Policy:\***

The bulletin boards located in the Authority administrative building and other facilities are intended for official notices regarding policies, procedures, meetings and special events.

The Authority shall provide two (2) bulletin boards for posting notices to its employees in the vicinity of both time clocks and agrees that the Group may use such bulletin board for notices addressed to its members as to Group meetings and other Group business. All postings shall be either on Group letterhead and/or signed by an authorized Group representative. No such material shall be derogatory, discriminatory, demeaning and/or inflammatory towards other employees, the Group and/or the Authority.

#### **SECTION THREE - Paid and Unpaid Time-Off Policies:**

#### **Paid Holiday Policy:**

The following fifteen (15) holidays shall apply to all personnel:

- 1. New Year's Day
- 2. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday
- 3. Washington's Birthday
- 4. Good Friday
- 5. Memorial Day
- 6. Independence Day
- 7. Labor Day
- 8. Columbus Day
- 9. Election Day
- 10. Veteran's Day
- 11. Thanksgiving Day
- 12. Friday after Thanksgiving
- 13. Christmas Eve
- 14. Christmas Day
- 15. New Year's Eve

When a listed holiday falls on a Saturday, it will be celebrated the preceding Friday. When a listed holiday falls on a Sunday, it will be celebrated the following Monday.

If a holiday falls during a vacation period, the employee shall be granted an additional day of vacation which may be scheduled at the option of the employee either at the beginning or end of the scheduled vacation. An employee not scheduled to work on a listed holiday (regular day off) shall receive a compensatory day to be selected by the employee as set forth in Paragraph 2 of the Overtime Pay Policy.

Personnel working on a listed holiday shall be paid eight (8) hours for the day in money, and paid at the rate of time and one-half (1 1/2) the normal rate for the hours actually worked.

It is understood and agreed that the Plant Superintendent or Executive Director has the right to demand that an employee, who does not work on his or her regular work day immediately preceding or following a recognized holiday, produce substantive evidence that he/she was ill. Normally a doctor or licensed medical practitioner's note will suffice. If the employee does not produce such evidence, the Authority has the right to not pay the employee for the holiday or to take appropriate disciplinary action.

#### **Vacation Leave Policy:**

Through December 31, 2017, the following policy is in effect for Vacation Leave. All full-time employees are entitled to an annual vacation with pay according to the following schedule, based on the employee's years of completed service:

After one (1) year of employment

After five (5) years of employment

After eleven (11) years of employment

After twelve (12) years of employment

After thirteen (13) years of employment

After fourteen (14) years of employment

After fifteen (15) years of employment

After fifteen (15) years of employment

After fifteen (15) years of employment

Two (2) weeks of pay.

Three (3) weeks and one (1) day of pay.

Three (3) weeks and two (2) days of pay.

Three (3) weeks and three (3) days of pay.

Three (3) weeks and four (4) days of pay.

Four (4) weeks of pay.

Effective January 1, 2018, all full-time employees are entitled to an annual vacation with pay according to the following schedule, based on the employee's years of completed service:

After one (1) year of employment	Two (2) weeks of pay
After five (5) years of employment	Three (3) weeks of pay
After ten (10) years of employment	Four (4) weeks of pay
After eleven (11) years of employment	Four (4) weeks and one (1) day of pay
After twelve (12) years of employment	Four (4) weeks and two (2) days of pay
After thirteen (13) years of employment	Four (4) weeks and three (3) days of pay
After fourteen (14) years of employment	Four (4) weeks and four (4) days of pay
After fifteen (15) years of employment	Five (5) weeks of pay

Partial and split vacations may be granted at the discretion of the Executive Director.

Effective through December 31, 2017, vacation time may not be accumulated and must be used within the anniversary year; however, a one (1) week carry over of vacation time from one (1) anniversary year to the next, not to exceed four (4) vacation weeks in any one anniversary year, may be arranged provided it does not interfere with the plant work schedule.

Effective beginning January 1, 2018, vacation time may not be accumulated and must be used within the anniversary year; however, a one (1) week carryover of vacation time from one (1) anniversary year to the next, not to exceed five (5) vacation weeks in any one (1) anniversary year, may be arranged provided it does not interfere with the plant work schedule and the "carryover week" is utilized within the first (1<sup>st</sup>) three (3) months of the following anniversary year.

In order to be eligible for full vacation pay in a particular year, an employee must have received pay in at least thirty (30) different work weeks during the fifty-two (52) week period immediately prior to the employment year in which the vacation would be taken. If an employee did not, he/she shall be entitled to the amount of time shown above based upon his

seniority, multiplied by the fraction that is arrived at by the actual number of work weeks in which he/she has worked during the year over the number fifty-two (52).

#### **Personal Leave Policy:**

Each employee will be permitted two (2) paid personal business days in any one calendar year under the conditions stated in Section 2 below. These days may not be accumulated and must be used within the calendar year. Employees will not be compensated for personal business days not used. After completing six (6) months of employment with the Authority, full-time employees shall be eligible to use their two (2) personal business days. Those employees whose date of employment is later than March 31 will be permitted to carry the personal days to the following year in their first year of employment.

Up to three (3) sick days may be taken in any one calendar year for personal business upon prior notice and authorization from the Executive Director or his/her designee. Permission will be reasonably given based upon the work schedules and plant operations. Personal business is limited to business and personal affairs of the employee, not otherwise excused, that cannot be accomplished other than during the employee's normal work hours.

#### **Sick Leave Policy:**

After completing six (6) months of employment with the Authority, full-time employees shall be allowed sick leave at the rate of one (1) day for each completed calendar month worked. Sick leave is available as set forth herein whenever an employee is required to be absent from work for a bona fide sickness or illness. Sick leave shall not be interpreted as including a period where the employee serves in the role of a nurse or housekeeper during an illness of another member of the family.

In all cases wherein an employee requests a sick leave or day, the Authority reserves the right to send a doctor to examine and report on the conditions of the employee or, in its discretion, to require the employee to visit a physician designated by the Authority.

Whenever an absence due to sickness or illness (1) exceeds three (3) successive work days or, (2) is on a day immediately before or after scheduled days off or holidays or other days not worked, or (3) occurs when an employee is scheduled to work on a weekend or holiday, the employee may be required to produce a physician's verification of said illness. In its discretion, the Authority reserves the right to have the employee examined by a physician before returning to duty. The Authority's right to demand a doctor's note to verify sick leave will not be exercised arbitrarily, capriciously, discriminatorily, or in bad faith.

Every absence on account of illness or disability in excess of three (3) successive working days must be certified by a written statement from a physician, using the form provided by the Authority. The Authority reserves the right to waive this requirement or to require the

employee to be examined by a physician of the Authority's choice before the employee may return to work.

In case of a prolonged illness beyond accumulated sick leave, the Authority will continue its payments to the New Jersey State Health Benefits Plan and Extended Sickness Benefit Plan to a maximum of one year from the date accumulated sick leave was exhausted, provided the employee is on an authorized medical leave. The Group may request that payments be continued beyond the maximum one year period which may be granted in the sole discretion of the Authority.

A request for medical leave shall be in writing and submitted to the Executive Director of the Authority together with the appropriate medical proof of illness. The Authority shall consider each such request on a case by case basis.

The grant of a request for an extension of benefits and/or a medical leave shall not be a waiver of the Authority's discretionary right to deny a request in any subsequent instance(s).

The Authority's rights under this Article will not be exercised arbitrarily, capriciously, discriminatorily, or in bad faith.

#### Accumulated Sick Leave

Sick leave not used may be accumulated (saved for the future). Sick leave neither accumulated nor used will be compensated for at the normal base pay, without premium rates, by January 15 of the following calendar year.

In addition to the above, any employee who does not use sick leave, including converting sick leave to personal leave, during the calendar year will be paid one (1) full day's pay in the first (1st) regular pay check of the next calendar year.

When a full-time employee has accumulated the maximum of sixty (60) days of sick leave, he/she shall be compensated at his/her normal base pay for the number of sick leave days in excess of sixty (60) days not used. Furthermore, any employee who retires on or after January 1, 2016 shall be dollar (\$) capped at 7,500.00

In the event of an employee's death, payment for all accumulated sick leave up to 60 days will be paid at the employee's base rate, without premium rate, to the employee's estate.

#### **Authorized Time Off**

In order to receive authorized time off with full or partial pay, the employee must have previously filed (except for Death in the Family which shall be addressed below), in writing, on the appropriate NBCUA form by written letter and receive prior authorization from the Executive Director or designee. Authorized time off shall include the following:

#### **Death in the Family:**

If there is a death in the employee's immediate family, the employee will be excused from work up to three (3) calendar days without a loss of pay, one (1) of which shall be the day of funeral or the actual day of death, whichever the employee chooses. It is the intention of this provision to make sure an employee has three (3) bereavement days off without loss of pay. If an employee cuts short a scheduled vacation on account of the death, the employee shall be entitled to reschedule the remaining portion of the vacation in the same manner as other compensatory days. Immediate family shall be limited to spouse or significant other, children, step-children, mother, step-mother, father, step-father, brother, sister, nephew, niece, mother-in-law, father-in-law, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, the maternal and/or paternal grandparents of the employee and his or her spouse/significant other, and grandchildren of the employee and/or his/her spouse/significant other. An employee shall be entitled to three (3) bereavement leave days in addition to any other regular time-off from work scheduled at the time when a death in the employee's immediate family occurs. In order to be eligible for bereavement leave, the employee must fill out and submit a bereavement leave request form with his/her supervisor, subsequent to the leave being taken.

#### **Jury Duty Policy:**

An employee called upon to serve as a juror will receive the difference between the jury payment and the employee's regular pay for a normal work week, upon presentation of satisfactory proof of the amount received from jury duty.

#### **Civic Duties:**

In the event of a serious emergency (not routine calls) an employee may be excused without a reduction in pay from his regular duties if he/she is a member of a local volunteer fire department, auxiliary police force, or ambulance corps. In order to qualify for this provision, the employee's services must be required by the commander of the unit involved. Said request shall be made to the Plant Superintendent.

To allow sufficient time for the Authority to schedule a replacement, jury notices and military orders are to be presented to the employee's supervisor or the Executive Director as soon as received but in no instance less than two (2) weeks before the date the employee is supposed to commence jury or military service, unless the employee did not receive two weeks' notice. Employees who do not provide this required notice will still be excused but will not receive payment under this Article.

Because the efficient operating of the Plant is also vital to the public health, all employees who wish to offer their time to voluntary fire, police and ambulance services must supply the Authority with some proof (such as a letter) from the head of such voluntary service acknowledging the active participation of the employee. The employee shall be required to notify the voluntary services of his or her work schedule at the Authority so that the service will first call other volunteers and avoid calling the employee away from duty. No employee,

while on duty, may leave his/her post or position for a civic matter without the express prior authorization of the Executive Director or designee. Failure to receive such authorization and leaving their post/position will result in immediate termination from the Authority's employ.

#### **Leave of Absence Policy:\***

A leave of absence without pay may be requested by any employee who will submit in writing all facts bearing on the request to the Executive Director, who will consider each request on its merits, without establishing a precedent. No leave of absence without pay will initially be granted for more than three (3) months (90 calendar days).

In the event a second leave of absence is requested, the procedures applying to such request shall be the same as in the case of a first request. No leave of absence shall be granted to any employee that totals more than six (6) months (180 calendar days) leave in any twelve (12) month period.

During leaves of absence, credits shall not accrue for sick leave, vacation time, and other benefits as well as other leaves of absence without pay, except for leaves of absence for military or other purposes if provided by statute.

#### Family and Medical Leave Act Policy:\*

Employees may be eligible for an unpaid family and medical leave under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA"). Employees also may be eligible for family and/or medical leave pursuant to the New Jersey Family Leave Act ("FLA"). In order to be eligible for such leave, employees must have: one (1) year of service with the Authority; and, at least 1,000 hours of work (for New Jersey leave) and 1,250 hours of work (for Federal leave) during the previous twelve (12) months and is employed at a worksite where 50 or more employees are employed by the employer within 75 miles of the worksite (for Federal leave). Eligible employees may receive up to twelve (12) weeks of leave per year (FMLA) or twelve (12) weeks every twenty-four (24) months (FLA).

During the leave period, the employee's health benefits will be continued on the same conditions as coverage would have been provided had the employee been employed continuously during the entire leave. The employee will not continue to accrue vacation, sick or personal days for the period of the leave. The employee will receive seniority credit for the time that the employee has been on leave under this section. At the conclusion of the leave period, an eligible employee is entitled to reinstatement to the position the employee previously held or to an equivalent one with the same terms and benefits that existed prior to the exercise of leave.

Upon written notice, eligible employees are entitled to a family or medical leave for up to twelve weeks to care for a newly born or adopted child or a seriously ill immediate family member, including civil union partner, or for the employee's own serious health condition that

makes the employee unable to perform the functions of the employee's position. Eligible employees who take leave under this policy must use all accrued available vacation and personal days during the leave. The use of accrued time will not extend the leave period. After exhausting accrued time, the employee will no longer be paid for the remainder of the leave.

The period of leave must be supported by a physician's certificate. An extension past twelve weeks can be requested, but medical verification of the need must be submitted prior to the expiration of the leave. The Authority reserves the right to deny any request for extended leave. Additional information concerning the Family Leave Policy and eligibility requirements are available from the Human Resources Officer.

Commencing July 1 2009, Family Temporary Disability ("FTD") payments for up to six (6) weeks in a twelve (12) month period will become available for eligible employees who are caring for a seriously ill immediate family member who is incapable of self-care or care of a newborn or adopted child. To be eligible, the employee must have worked at least 20 weeks at minimum wage within the last 52 weeks or earned 1000 times the minimum wage. The weekly benefit is 2/3 of weekly compensation up to a maximum of \$524 per week (this amount is subject to change). FTD will run concurrently with FMLA and/or FLA leaves and there is a one week waiting period. Employees may also be required to use accrued sick, vacation or personal leave for up to two weeks.

Employees taking paid family leave in connection with a family member's serious health condition may take leave intermittently or consecutively. Intermittent leave is not available for the care of a newborn or adopted child. Intermittent leave may be taken in increments necessary to address the circumstances that precipitated the need for leave. An employee seeking intermittent paid family leave is required to provide the Authority with 15 days notice unless an emergency or other unforeseen circumstance precludes prior notice. The employee seeking intermittent leave shall make a reasonable attempt to schedule leave in a non-disruptive manner. Employees requesting such leave shall provide the Authority with a regular schedule of days for intermittent leave.

Employees may also be eligible for an unpaid leave for up to twenty-six (26) workweeks in a year to care for a family member on active duty in the military or a covered veteran (a covered veteran is an individual who was discharged or released under conditions other than a dishonorable at any time during the five-year period prior to the first date the eligible employee takes FMLA leave to care for the covered veteran) with a serious injury or illness incurred in the line of duty on active duty for which the service member is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, is otherwise in outpatient status, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list, or up to twelve (12) weeks in a year for a qualifying exigency. A qualifying exigency occurs when a military member is called to covered active duty (requires deployment to a foreign country)and a close member of his/her family must attend official ceremonies or family support or assistance meetings, there is a short-notice deployment, to attend to childcare matters, attend to financial and/or legal matters, or counseling. A serious injury or illness means an injury or illness incurred by a covered servicemember in the line of

duty on active duty that may render the servicemember medically unfit to perform the duties of his or her office, grade, rank, or rating.

A serious injury or illness also means an injury or illness that was incurred by the covered veteran in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces or that existed before the veteran's active duty and was aggravated by service in the line of duty on active duty, and that is either:

- 1. a continuation of a serious injury or illness that was incurred or aggravated when the veteran was a member of the Armed Forces and rendered the servicemember unable to perform the duties of the servicemember's office, grade, rank, or rating; *or*
- 2. a physical or mental condition for which the veteran has received a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Service-Related Disability Rating (VASRD) of 50 percent or greater, and the need for military caregiver leave is related to that condition; *or*
- 3. a physical or mental condition that substantially impairs the veteran's ability to work because of a disability or disabilities related to military service, or would do so absent treatment; *or*
- 4. an injury that is the basis for the veteran's enrollment in the Department of Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers.

Any *one* of these definitions meets the FMLA's definition of a serious injury or illness for a covered veteran regardless of whether the injury or illness manifested before or after the individual became a veteran.

Upon employer's request, an employee must provide a copy of the covered military member's active duty orders to support request for qualifying exigency leave. In addition, upon an employer's request, certification for qualifying exigency leave must be supported by a certification containing the following information:

- statement or description of appropriate facts regarding the qualifying exigency for which leave is needed;
- approximate date on which the qualifying exigency commenced or will commence;
- beginning and end dates for leave to be taken for a single continuous period of time;
- an estimate of the frequency and duration of the qualifying exigency if leave is needed on a reduced scheduled basis or intermittently; and
- if the qualifying exigency requires meeting with a third party, the contact information for the third party and description of the purpose of the meeting.

Eligible employees may also take leave to care for a military member's parent who is incapable of self-care when the care is necessitated by the member's covered active duty. Such care may include arranging for alternative care, providing care on an immediate basis, admitting or transferring the parent to a care facility, or attending meetings with staff at a care facility.

Employees who request qualifying exigency leave to spend time with a military member on Rest & Recuperation may take up to a maximum of 15 calendar days. Upon an employer's request, an employee must provide a copy of the military member's Rest and Recuperation leave orders, or other documentation issued by the military setting forth the dates of the military member's leave.

#### **Domestic Violence Leave Policy: \***

The New Jersey Security and Financial Empowerment Act, also known as the "NJ SAFE Act" provides protection for employees and their family members who have been the victim of domestic violence or sexual assault. Employees are entitled to twenty (20) days of unpaid protected leave from work to:

- Seek medical attention for physical or psychological injuries;
- Obtain services from a victim services organization, pursue psychological or other counseling;
- Participate in safety planning for temporary or permanent relocation;
- Seek legal assistance to ensure health and safety of the employee or the employee's relative; or
- Attend, participate in, or prepare for a criminal or civil court proceeding relating to an incident of domestic or sexual violence.

To be eligible for the leave, an employee must meet the following criteria:

- The employee or their child, parent, spouse or domestic partner must be a victim of domestic violence or a sexually violent offense;
- The employee must have worked for the employer for at least twelve months and for at least 1,000 hours during the twelve (12) month period immediately preceding the requested leave; and
- The twenty (20) day leave must be taken within one (1) year of the qualifying event.

Employees may take leave on an intermittent basis but such leave cannot be shorter than one (1) full day. To the extent the leave is foreseeable, employees must provide advice notice. In addition, employee seeking leave must provide proof that they qualify for the leave. Such proof may include restraining order, letter from a prosecutor, proof of conviction, medical documentation or a certification from an agency or professional involved in assisting the employee.

In certain circumstances, the basis for the leave may also qualify under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act and/or the New Jersey Family Leave act. If so, the Authority will treat the leave concurrently with the leave under those statutes. Employees may be required to use accrued paid vacation leave, personal time or sick leave concurrently.

The Authority shall protect the privacy of employees who seek leave by holding the request for leave, the leave itself or the failure to return to work "in the strictest confidence."

The Authority shall not retaliate, harass or discriminate against any employee exercising his/her right to take the leave provided by this policy.

#### **Military Leave Policy:\***

When a full-time employee (either permanent or temporary) who is a member of the reserve component of any United States armed force or the National Guard of any state including the Naval Militia and Air National Guard is required to engage in field training or is called for active duty, the employee will be granted a military leave of absence for the duration of the service. The first thirty (30) workdays of the leave shall be with full pay except that a member of the New Jersey National Guard shall receive full pay for the first ninety (90) days. (Thereafter, the leave shall be without pay but without loss of time.) or (Thereafter, the employee shall be paid the difference between military salary and the employee's regular salary.) The paid leave will not be counted against any available time off including but not limited to vacation, sick or personal time. A full-time temporary employee who has served less than one-year shall not be entitled to paid leave but shall be granted non-paid military leave without loss of time.

Employees on military service will also continue to receive paid health insurance coverage during the period of the paid leave plus an additional thirty days calendar days after the paid leave is exhausted. After this period has expired, employees may continue coverage for themselves or their dependents under the Authority group plan by taking advantage of the COBRA provision. Members of the State administered retirement systems (PERS and PFRS) will continue accruing service and salary credit in the system during the period of paid leave.

Pursuant to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, any employee released from active duty under honorable circumstances shall return to work without loss of privileges or seniority within the following time limits: for service less than thirty-one (31) calendar days, the employee must return to work on the beginning of the first regularly scheduled workday or eight (8) hours after the end of military duty, with reasonable allowances for commuting; for service of thirty-one (31) to one hundred eighty (180) calendar days, the employee must submit an application for reinstatement within fourteen (14) calendar days after completing military duty; for service greater than one hundred and eighty (180) calendar days, the employee must submit an application for reinstatement within ninety (90) calendar days after completing military duty.

#### **SECTION FOUR - Compensation & Employee Benefits Policies:**

#### **Payroll Policy:**

#### Pay Period and Paycheck Distribution

All employees, plant and office, are paid every second Friday for a fourteen (14) day pay period ending the Saturday prior to the Friday pay day.

If a holiday falls on a scheduled payday, the preceding Thursday will be the payday.

The normal workweek for Office Personnel shall consist of five (5) working days from Monday through Friday. Working hours are 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM with a one (1) hour lunch period resulting in a 35 hour work week. Office Personnel may vary these hours during the summer months of July and August, with approval of the Executive Director providing the work week is no less than 35 hours.

Because of the nature of the Authority's operations, coverage must be maintained 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Plant personnel shall work a 40 hour week with working hours defined by the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

The Authority will not accept responsibility for any employee's personal finances. The Authority will acknowledge judgments against an employee's pay, but will not act as a mediator between the employee and creditors.

#### **Credit Information & Wage Assignments**

Only information about employees that is classified as "public record" is made available to those making credit inquiries. All other requests for information, other than verification of employment, must be made in writing.

All employees are expected to pay their creditors when due. If employees fall behind on their credit payments, court ordered garnishments of wages may occur. If this happens, the Authority is legally required to deduct a portion of the employee's salary from his/her paycheck and forward it to the creditors.

#### **Time Reporting**

Accurate and complete attendance records shall be maintained by the Authority. These records are the official records used to determine the employee's eligibility for pay benefits.

Each hourly employee is required to submit a Time Sheet for the pay period prior to pay day.

This record includes any absences or overtime that an employee has incurred during the pay period.

#### **Overtime Pay**

For hourly employees overtime work shall be compensated at the rate of one and one-half times the employee's normal base rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of the normal work week for that employee's position, provided such extra hours are worked in the same normal pay week, being defined as Sunday through Saturday. For hourly employees in the collective bargaining unit please refer to the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Hourly employees may request compensatory time off equal to the amount of time actually worked. The compensatory time off would be equivalent to time and one-half (1 ½). The Authority retains the sole discretionary right to grant such a request and the granting of such a request in any one instance is not a waiver of the Authority's sole discretionary right to deny a request in any subsequent instance(s). The accumulation of compensatory time is hereby discontinued. Employees who are granted compensatory time must utilize it by the conclusion of the following payroll period in which the time is granted or it will be paid by the Authority.

In computing overtime compensation the nearest one-half of an hour shall be the smallest fraction of an hour to be reported and paid.

In the event of a holiday, an authorized vacation day or an illness which causes the employee to be absent, these days will be counted as time worked to compute overtime. Personal time off (PTO) and accumulated holiday time (AHT) will NOT count as time worked in the computation of overtime.

#### **Overtime Compensation Policy:**

Under the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act, certain employees in managerial, supervisory, administrative, computer and professional positions are exempt from the provisions of the Act. The Administrative Assistant shall notify all exempt employees of their status under the Act. Exempt employees are not eligible to receive overtime compensation and are required to work the normal workweek and any additional hours needed to fulfill their responsibilities. Time off consideration for large amounts of additional hours may be provided with the Executive Director's prior approval and at the sole discretion of the Executive Director.

All other employees are classified as Non-Exempt and are subject to the provisions of the Act. Depending on work needs, Non-Exempt employees may be required to work overtime. Rules governing overtime and overtime compensation are detailed in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

#### **Health Insurance Policy:**

The Authority, being a participant in the New Jersey State Health and Dental Benefits Plan, offers all employees and their dependents benefits under this system. Enrollment shall include the employee's family, as defined by the Plan. Drug Prescription coverage is also provided to the extent covered by the health benefit plan. In order to be eligible, an employee must work at least thirty-five (35) hours per week on a regular basis.

Premiums for these insurance programs shall be borne by the Authority, subject to employee contributions (including applicable retirees) required by <u>Ch.</u> 78, <u>P.L.</u> 2011, effective July 1, 2014.

#### **Prescription Eye Glasses Benefit Policy:**

The Authority will reimburse an employee up to Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) annually for the purchase of one (1) pair of prescription eyeglasses and a related eye examination for replacements of the same only, due to damage or loss while on duty.

#### **Retirement Policy:**

Under State law, all employees must enroll in the New Jersey Public Employee Retirement System or the Police and Fire Fighters Retirement System as applicable. The employee's contribution to the Plan will be deducted from the employee's pay. An employee who has completed the required number of years and who has reached the required age under the Plan may retire by notifying the Department Head in writing. The State retirement plans request six months advance notice to process the application. After giving notice of retirement, employees are expected to assist their supervisor and co-employees by providing information concerning their current projects and help in the training of a replacement. The Department Head will prepare an Employee Action form showing any pay or other money owed the employee. The (Administrative Assistant will conduct a confidential exit interview to discuss benefits including COBRA options, appropriate retirement issues and pay due. A COBRA notification letter will be sent to the employee's home address. The exit interview will also include an open discussion with the employee. On the last day of work, and prior to receiving the final paycheck, the employee must return the Employee Identification Card, all keys and equipment. At this time, the employee will sign the termination memo designating all money owed and this memo will be retained in the official personnel file.

#### **Workers Compensation Policy:**

Employees who are injured while working must make an immediate report of such injury to the Supervisor. All injuries, no matter how slight they may be, must be reported within four (4) hours after the injury. All injuries incurred in or arising out of the course of employment shall be subject to Worker's Compensation Law of the State of New Jersey. Any employee who on any day is unable to complete a full day's work because they suffered an accident within the

course and scope of their employment shall receive full pay for eight (8) hours on that day, seven (7) hours for administrative staff employees.

The Authority covers workers compensation benefits through its membership in a joint insurance fund. All required medical treatment must be performed by a Workers Compensation Physician appointed by the joint insurance fund and payment for unauthorized medical treatment may not be covered pursuant to the Act.

An employee absent because of an injury arising out of his employment shall continue to receive his wages as long as the injured employee endorsed over to the Authority his/her temporary disability check received by reason of said injury. Such salary continuation shall be up to a maximum of six (6) months from the date of injury. The Group may request an extension beyond a six (6) month period which may be granted in the sole discretion of the Authority.

#### **Employee Assistance Policy:**

The Northwest Bergen County Utility Authority participated in the Bergen County Employee Assistance Program (EAP). The EAP provides confidential assessments, referrals, and monitoring to employees for such personal matters as family and marital relations, legal or financial difficulties, substance abuse, and other problems. The EAP has proven to be an important and successful health personnel service for all county employees and municipal employees in nine towns.

Three major classes of referrals for the EAP include substance abuse, psychological or family, and legal. For additional information contact the Bergen County Office of Alcohol & Drug Dependency, 327 East Ridgewood Avenue, Paramus, NJ 07652 • Phone (201) 634-2740.

#### **Educational Assistance and Tuition Policy:**

All bargaining unit employees seeking payment for license and trade incentives in accordance with Articles 22 and 23 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective January 1, 2017, shall bear all the costs for obtaining and/or maintaining said licenses. The Authority shall pay no costs/fees whatsoever nor shall reimbursement be permitted. The Authority will allow paid time off to obtain/maintain such licenses when requested in writing to the Superintendent at least ten (10) calendar days in advance of such time off and so long as the time off does not interfere with Authority operations as determined by the Authority or create an overtime opportunity for other bargaining unit members.

Upon approval of the Superintendent and/or Executive Director, employees may apply for reimbursement of tuition expenses incurred for training or college courses directly related to the employee's work. The Executive Director will be the sole judge of whether a particular course or program is "directly related" to the employee's work. Employees are strongly urged to obtain this determination before enrolling in a course or program.

Employees may receive reimbursement for up to 100 percent of the tuition cost for training or college courses that they take on their own initiative. The reimbursement must be repaid if the employee leaves Authority employment within twenty-four months of receipt.

#### **Conference and Seminar Policy:**

Requests to attend a conference or seminar must be approved by the Department Head and the Superintendent. Requests shall be made sufficiently in advance to take advantage of discounts for early registration. Requests must be in writing including the conference schedule, registration information and estimated costs. The Department Head is responsible to detail all training requests during the budget formulation process. Approval of any conference or seminar request is conditioned upon the availability of funds.

#### **SECTION FIVE: - Managerial/Supervisory Procedures:**

#### **Employment Procedure:\***

- Recruitment: The Executive Director in conjunction with the Administrative Assistant will coordinate the employment recruitment process for all vacancies to ensure compliance with contractual, legal, and equal opportunity requirements. When a vacancy occurs, it is the responsibility of the Department Head or Superintendent to notify the Executive. The Executive Director will undertake to recruit qualified applicants in accordance with applicable Federal and State law. Where positions are advertised, the media or other periodical utilized must have as wide circulation as possible to encourage applications from candidates from diverse backgrounds and must prominently state that the Authority is an equal opportunity employer.
- **Applications:** All candidates must fully complete an application form. A resume will not be considered as a substitute for this form. The application is a confidential document and will not be available to anyone who is not directly involved in the hiring process, except as required by law.
- Interviews: The Executive Director, Superintendent or Department Head will coordinate the interview process including the scheduling of applicants, development of interview questions and standards to measure candidate responses. All questions must be in accordance with the New Jersey Division of Civil Rights Guidelines for Pre-Employment Inquiries. The Authority will make reasonable accommodations to known physical and mental limitations of all applicants with disabilities, provided that the individual is otherwise qualified to safely perform the essential functions of the job and also provided the accommodation does not impose an unreasonable hardship on the Authority.
- Physical Examinations: All permanent full-time employees are required to have a
  comprehensive physical examination as a condition of employment, which they must
  pass in order to be employed. NBCUA shall schedule and pay for physical
  examinations of all potential hires.

The Authority may request a physical examination of any employee at any time in its discretion. Said physical examination shall be made at the Authority's expense and by a doctor of the Authority's choice.

All employees are required to participate in the NBCUA Drug and Alcohol Screening Program which includes random testing for employees. Penalties for failure of the test(s) or failure to participate in the program are described in the Program which is distributed to each employee.

- Criminal Background Checks: Criminal background checks are required of all candidates, whether paid or volunteer, that may work directly or indirectly with the Authority.
- **Job Offers:** The final decision will be made by the Authority Executive Director after all references and other information has been verified. Every effort shall be made to offer reasonable accommodations to known physical and mental limitations of all applicants with disabilities, provided that the individual is otherwise qualified to safely perform the essential functions of the job and also provided that the accommodation does not impose an unreasonable hardship on the Authority. The employment offer must be made in a letter to the candidate outlining all terms and conditions of the offer. The letter will also establish a deadline for acceptance.
- Acceptances and Rejections: If the first offer is rejected, the Authority Executive Director will decide to hire another candidate or re-open the position. Once a candidate accepts the employment offer, all other candidates will be notified in writing that they were not accepted for the position.
- **Employability Proof:** After acceptance, but before starting employment, all new employees shall be required to fill out an employment verification form (I9) and to provide acceptable proof of right to employment in the United States.
- Record Retention: All applications, notes made during interviews and reference checks, job offers and other documents created during hiring process must be returned to the Administrative Assistant. Documents related to the successful candidate will be placed in the employee's official personnel file except medical records including physical examinations must be maintained in a separate file. All records documents related to other candidates must be retained for at least one year. Records and documents created during the hiring process are confidential and must be retained in a locked cabinet.

### **Background Checks and Procedures for Candidates, Employees and Volunteers:**

- **Background checks required**: Background checks are required of all candidates, whether for paid or volunteer positions, working directly or indirectly with the Authority.
- Background check procedure: The Authority will initiate background checks and be the recipient of reports from outside agencies or contractors. The Administrative Assistant will discuss disqualifying information received with the Superintendent or Executive Director. Written information received as a result of a "Request for Criminal History Record Information for a Noncriminal Justice Purpose" will be destroyed immediately after it has served its authorized purpose, as required by the State Police. Such information will be kept confidential and will not be published or disclosed in any

manner not consistent with the procedures listed herein. Such information will not be deemed a public record under P.L. 1963, c.73 (C:47:1A-1, et seq.) as amended and supplemented by P.L. 2001, c.404 (C:47:1A-5, et seq.).

The Administrative Assistant will inform the candidate, volunteer, or employee, in writing, of any information that would disqualify the person from working for the Authority. If the Authority contracts with an outside vendor to process the background checks, that contractor may be authorized to inform the person in writing of any information that would disqualify the person from working for the Authority. Existing employees or volunteers will be placed on immediate suspension pending the outcome of a hearing or appeal. Employee suspensions may be with our without pay at the discretion of the Executive Director.

- Conditions Under Which An Employee Will Be Disqualified From Working for the Authority: A candidate, volunteer, or employee may be disqualified from employment in a position if that person's criminal record history background check reveals a record of conviction of any of the following crimes and disorderly persons offenses as defined by New Jersey law or by analogous laws in other States:
  - Homicide (N.J.S.A. 2C:11)
  - Assault, reckless endangerment, threats, stalking (N.J.S.A. 2C:12)
  - Kidnapping (N.J.S.A. 2C:13)
  - Sexual Offenses (N.J.S.A. 2C:14)
  - Offenses Against the Family, Children and Incompetents (N.J.S.A. 2C:24)
  - Controlled Dangerous Substances (N.J.S.A. 2C:35 except for 2C:35-10(a)4)
  - Robbery (N.J.S.A. 2C:15)
  - Theft (N.J.S.A. 2C:20)

A disqualification from any position will be based only on a conviction for one or more of the above disqualifying crimes and offenses. An acquittal, a dismissal, successful completion of Pre-Trial Intervention (PTI), or an expungement of a criminal offense, including a disqualifying criminal offense, is not a disqualifying conviction.

#### **Nepotism Procedure: (if any)**

Unless otherwise provided by law or collective bargaining unit agreements, immediate relatives shall not be hired, promoted or transferred to a regular full-time or regular part-time position where:

- One relative would have the authority to appoint, remove, discipline or evaluate the performance of the other;
- One relative would be responsible for auditing the work of the other; or

• Other circumstances exist that place the relatives in a situation of actual or reasonably foreseeable conflict of interest.

For purposes of this policy, immediate relative includes spouse or significant other, child, parent, stepchild, sibling, grandparents, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, grandchildren, niece, nephew, uncle, aunt, or any person related by blood or marriage residing in an employee's household.

#### **Open Public Meetings Act Procedure concerning Personnel Matters:\***

Discussions by the governing body or any body of the Authority concerning appointment, termination, terms and conditions of employment, performance evaluation, promotion or discipline of any current or prospective officer or employee shall be in closed session, with the right of the employee to be present, unless the individual requests in writing that the discussion be held in open session. Such request must be granted. Prior to the discussion by the governing body or any body of the Authority concerning such matters, the Board Secretary shall notify the affected person(s) of the meeting date, time and place, the matters to be discussed and the person's right to request that the discussion occur in open session. In the event more than one person is affected by the discussion and one of the affected persons does not request that the discussion be in open session, then the discussion shall be in closed session.

#### Processing and Orientation of New Employees Procedure:\*

All new regular full-time and regular part-time employees will be scheduled to meet with the Department Head on their first day for a general orientation. Copies of all forms and acknowledgements must be returned to the Administrative Assistant for inclusion in the employee's official personnel file. The orientation will include:

- A tour of the appropriate facilities to acquaint the new employee with overall operations as they relate to the specific position;
- The completion of all pertinent personnel, payroll, insurance and pension forms;
- A review of the Employee Handbook and acknowledgement of receipt;
- A review of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual if the employee is a manager or supervisor and acknowledgement of receipt;
- The Employee Complaint Policy letter and acknowledgement;
- A safety orientation and acknowledgement; and
- Arrangements for the new employee to complete required PEOSHA safety training.

#### **Initial Employment Period Procedure:\***

Except where State requirements direct otherwise, new employees (or present employees transferring to new positions) will be hired subject to an initial employment period of not less than 180 days. During this initial employment period, the new employee or transferee will be provided with training and guidance from the supervisor. At the end of the initial employment period, the supervisor will conduct an employee evaluation – see Performance Evaluation Procedure. New employees may be discharged at any time during this period if the Authority concludes that the employee is not progressing or performing satisfactorily. Under appropriate circumstances, the Executive Director may extend the initial employment period. (Newly hired employees are not eligible for payment of paid time off except holidays until the successful completion of the initial 180 day employment period.)

Nothing in the procedure set forth in this section shall alter the Authority's employment at will policy. Employment with the Authority is at will and may be terminated at any time with or without cause or notice by the Authority or the employee."

#### **Employee Handbook Procedure:\***

The Administrative Assistant with the assistance of the Authority Attorney shall draft an Employee Handbook for the approval of the Executive Director. A separate version of the Handbook will be drafted for part-time and seasonal employees as well as for major bargaining groups if appropriate. Once approved, copies will be distributed and employees will be required to sign an acknowledgement of receipt that will be placed in the official personnel file. The Handbook will be revised and re-distributed whenever there is a significant change in personnel practice or every two years.

#### Performance Evaluation Procedure:\*

Performance discussions must provide employees with guidance regarding their ability to meet job standards. Extraordinary skills or abilities should be recognized in addition to areas for improvement. Supervisors should review future training needs and career planning. The reviewer should also encourage the employee to make suggestions about how the department can improve. The reviewer should ask employees for feedback regarding the employee's skills as they relate to communication, team building, delegation, and sensitivity to needs of subordinates. Open communication is the key to improvement.

• **Setting the Stage**: The reviewer must create a productive climate for the discussion. In preparing the evaluation form, prior evaluations should be reviewed to identify trends. Employees must be notified in advance of the meeting and should be given a copy of the blank evaluation form. The meeting should be private without interruptions in a comfortable environment.

- Confirm Expectations: The reviewer should start the discussion of each performance area by reviewing expectations. Ask the employee to confirm the employee's understanding of job requirements. Refer to the job description as appropriate.
- Rating: Continue the discussion by giving the employee's rating in each performance area. The supervisor should be prepared to refer to documentation. Employees should be evaluated based on set standards, not as they compare to other employees. It is rare that any person's rating in all areas is either high or low. The evaluation should consider performance during the entire period, not just the recent past. Care should be taken to avoid allowing one aspect of a person's performance to overshadow all other performance factors be it positive or negative. Ideally, each performance area should be evaluated individually based on specific behaviors exhibited.
- **Discussing Future Plans:** This is where the reviewer should turn to the discussion to the future performance and development of the employee. A Counseling Action Plan form must be completed if any item is rated "Needs Improvement" or "Does Not Meet Minimum Standards." Specific performance goals must be established for the next review period along with plans for achieving those goals.
- Closing the Discussion: When all performance areas have been discussed, close the discussion by summarizing all of ratings in an overall rating for the review period.

It is crucial that all reviewers complete the evaluation forms with care and with complete candor. Although reviewers are encouraged to set forth areas of strength and utilize tact in presenting criticism, it is important that all performance issues of any significance be addressed thoroughly and in unambiguous terms in the evaluation form, and verbally with the employee.

Exceeds Expectations means consistently exceeds established standards in most areas of responsibility. All requirements must be met and objectives achieved above the established standards.

*Meets Job Requirements* means all job requirements were met and planned objectives accomplished within established standards. There were no critical areas where accomplishments were less than planned.

*Needs Improvement* means performance in one or more critical areas does not meet expectations. Not all planned objectives were accomplished within the established standards and some responsibilities were not completely met.

Does Not Meet Minimum Standards means performance is unacceptable and important objectives have not been accomplished. Needs immediate improvement.

After completing the evaluation, the reviewer will return the form(s) with the signed acknowledgement to the Executive Director. After review by the Executive Director, the form(s) are to be forwarded to the Administrative Assistant for inclusion in the employee's official personnel file. As a part of the evaluation, employees have the right to request a conference with the Executive Director.

#### **Disciplinary Action Procedure:\***

All employees are expected to meet the Authority's work performance standards. The intent of the Disciplinary Action Procedure is to formally document problems and provide the employee with a reasonable time to improve performance. The process should encourage development by providing employees with guidance in areas that need improvement such as poor work performance, attendance problems, personal conduct, general compliance with the Authority's policies and procedures and other disciplinary problems.

Should a supervisor believe that an employee is not conforming to the Authority's policies and rules or to specific instructions, or has acted improperly, the supervisor will first privately discuss the matter with the employee to obtain the employee's view. If the supervisor determines that the employee has acted improperly, the supervisor shall take one of the following actions depending upon the gravity and the employee's past record. At the discretion of the supervisor, action may begin at any step, and/or certain steps may be repeated or bypassed.

- **Verbal Reprimand:** Depending on the circumstances, the supervisor may verbally notify the employee that the employee's actions have been improper and warn the employee against further occurrences. The supervisor will prepare a record of the verbal reprimand including the date, time and what was discussed with the employee. This record must be forwarded to the Administrative Assistant for the employee's official personnel file.
- Written Reprimand: When a supervisor determines that a written reprimand is appropriate, the situation must be discussed with the Superintendent and/or Human Resources Officer. The reprimand should clearly identify the problem and outline a course of corrective action within a specific time frame. The employee should clearly understand both the corrective action and the consequence (i.e., termination) if the problem is not corrected or reoccurs. The employee should acknowledge receipt of the warning and may include additional comments. A copy of the written reprimand with the signed acknowledgement and comments must be forwarded to the Administrative Assistant for the employee's official personnel file.
- **Suspension:** Whenever an employee is recommended for suspension, the Executive Director will make the decision and may seek the advice of the Authority Attorney if appropriate. Suspended Employees may request a hearing under the applicable grievance procedure.

• **Dismissal:** Whenever an employee is recommended for dismissal, the Executive Director will make the decision only after seeking the advice of the Authority Attorney. There must be a complete review of the employee's personnel file and all other facts to determine if there is sufficient cause for the dismissal. Terminated employees may request a hearing under the applicable grievance procedure.

#### Personnel File Procedure:\*

The official personnel files shall be maintained by the Administrative Assistant and employee medical information will be maintained in a separate file. At least annually, the Administrative Assistant will review files to make sure they are up-to-date and will follow-up with the Department Heads as necessary.

The Official file shall include at least the following:

- The original application signed by the employee;
- Notes from any pre-employment interview and reference check;
- The original letter detailing an offer of employment and any additional correspondence concerning the employee's hiring;
- A signed acknowledgement that the employee received a copy of the Employee Complaint Policy letter;
- A signed acknowledgement that the employee has received the Employee Handbook;
- A signed acknowledgement that the employee received the safety orientation;
- Annual written performance evaluations including documentation that the evaluation was reviewed with the employee;
- Counseling Action Plans;
- Records relating to on-the-job accidents;
- Disciplinary actions including an acknowledgement that the employee was notified of the proposed disciplinary action and was given an opportunity to respond;
- Records relating to any other employment actions including promotions, demotions, transfers, resignations, leaves, etc.;
- Educational transcripts; and

Any other pertinent information.

#### **Employee Complaint Investigation Procedure:\***

Employees have the right to formally or informally report any statement, act, or behavior by a co-employee, supervisor, elected official or visitor that they believe to be improper.

- **Reporting:** Employees should be asked to report complaints in writing utilizing the Employee Complaint form, but are not compelled to do so.
- Identification/Screening: The supervisor must report all written or verbal complaints to the Executive Director unless the complaint is against the Executive Director. Upon receipt, the Executive Director will determine if the complaint was made pursuant to the General Anti-Harassment Policy, the Anti-Sexual Harassment Policy, the Whistle Blower Policy, a grievance procedure or is another form of complaint. A file will be established including the written complaint, the investigation procedure followed and the response action plan. As soon as possible but no later than ten days after receiving the complaint, the Executive Director or investigator appointed by the Executive Director will interview the employee. If the employee is reluctant to sign a written complaint, the Executive Director or investigator will prepare written notes of the date, time and place of the complaint and the specific allegations. These notes will be read back to the employee who will be asked to affirm, preferably in writing the information's accuracy.
- Investigation: The Executive Director may seek the advice of the Authority Attorney when planning the investigation. The investigation should be conducted by the Attorney/ or county prosecutor if it involves potential criminal charges. The investigation should establish the frequency and nature of the alleged conduct and whether the complaint coincides with other employment events such as a poor performance evaluation. The investigation should also determine if other employees were subjected to similar misconduct. It is important to protect the rights of both the person making the complaint and the alleged wrongdoer.
- Response Plan No Corrective Action Required: The Executive Director will review the conclusions with the Attorney if necessary and render a decision within fourteen days after the investigation is complete. If the validity of a complaint cannot be determined or the complaint is groundless, the complaining employee should be notified in writing. Care should be taken to avoid being too specific, confrontational or accusatory and to avoid any language that might be construed as defamatory. A general statement is usually more appropriate that the claim was thoroughly investigated, but could not be sufficiently documented or confirmed to justify taking formal action. The employee should be assured that future complaints will be investigated and that the Authority is committed to eliminating wrongful employment practices when they are found to exist. If the investigation reveals that the complainant intentionally and maliciously levied false charges against the alleged wrongdoer, the complainant must

be notified of the seriousness of filing a false complaint, and the appropriate disciplinary penalty under the circumstances, up to and including termination.

• Response Plan – Corrective Action Required: If the investigation reveals that the complaint is justified and substantiated, the Executive Director will formulate with the advise of the Attorney a corrective action plan as well as possible disciplinary action. The complaining employee will be notified, in writing that it appears that the complaint was justified and an appropriate response plan has been formulated. A copy of the response plan should be attached to the letter. The response plan should provide for appropriate remedial action to prevent a recurrence of the wrongful act or behavior.

#### Requests for Employment Verification and Reference Procedure:\*

Inquiries and written requests for references or employment verification regarding a current or former employee must be referred to the Administrative Assistant. No employee may issue a reference letter without the permission of the Administrative Assistant. Under no circumstances should any information be released over the phone.

In response to a request for information, the Administrative Assistant will only verify an employee's name, dates of employment, job title, department and final salary. No other data or information will be furnished unless (1) the Authority is required to release the information by law or (2) the employee or former employee authorizes the Authority in writing to furnish this information and releases the Authority from liability.

#### **Continuing Education Procedure:\***

The Authority will arrange for employment practices seminars at least annually to train all managerial/supervisory personnel. The Authority will also offer non-mandatory training to all other employees with special emphasis on employee rights and protections under various Federal and State laws as well as Authority employment practices. Records will be maintained in the official personnel files of all employees trained under this procedure.

Managerial and supervisory personnel will also update employees periodically by department meetings and memos that should address specific problems and concerns that may arise. Every effort will be made to encourage employee suggestions about ways to avoid employer-employee disputes and violations of employment rights.

#### **SECTION SIX: - Forms**

- Notice of Personnel Discussion\*
- Employee Letter Concerning Employee Complaint Procedure\*
- Sample Notices Concerning Whistleblower Act\*
- Application for Employment\*
- NJ Division of Civil Rights Guide on Pre-Employment Inquiries\*
- Performance Appraisal\*
- Counseling Action Plan\*
- Employee Evaluation Checklist\*
- Fingerprint and Background Check Consent Form For Employees and Job Applicants.



 

 30 Wyckoff Avenue
 Tel: 201.447.2660

 at Authority Drive
 Fax: 201.447.0247

 at Authority Drive P.O. Box 255 Waldwick, NJ 07463

www.nbcua.com

#### NOTICE OF PERSONNEL DISCUSSION

To:						
Addre	ss:					
the sub	Application for Promotion or Compensation Performance E Special Leave Grievance	ı Evaluation			NBCUA plans to	discuss
_ _	Discipline Possible Term Other (Specify					
The di	scussion will ta	ke place at the followi	ing meeting(	s):		
Date o	f Meeting(s):					-
Time:						-
Locati	on:	,				
Author the dis	rity receives a r cussion will aff all such affecte	e in closed session, not request, in writing, in v fect other employees o ed persons submit such	which you as r potential e	k that the discuss mployees, it may	sion be held in pu be closed to the	ıblic. If public
Notice	Date:	Signed:		_ (title)		

## Conscientious Employee Protection Act

"Whistleblower Act"

#### Employer retaliatory action; protected employee actions; employee responsibilities

- New Jersey law prohibits an employer from taking any retaliatory action against an employee because the employee does any of the following:
  - a. Discloses, or threatens to disclose, to a supervisor or to a public body an activity, policy or practice of the employer or another employer, with whom there is a business relationship, that the employee reasonably believes is in violation of a law, or a rule or regulation issued under the law, or, in the case of an employee who is a licensed or certified health care professional, reasonably believes constitutes improper quality of patient care:
  - b. Provides information to, or testifies before, any public body conducting an investigation, hearing or inquiry into any violation of law, or a rule or regulation issued under the law by the employer or another employer, with whom there is a business relationship, or, in the case of an employee who is a licensed or certified health care professional, provides information to, or testifies before, any public body conducting an investigation, hearing or inquiry into quality of patient care; or
  - c. Provides information involving deception of, or misrepresentation to, any shareholder, investor, client, patient, customer, employee, former employee, retiree or pensioner of the employer or any governmental entity.
  - d. Provides information regarding any perceived criminal or fraudulent activity, policy or practice of deception or misrepresentation which the employee reasonably believes may defraud any shareholder, investor, client, patient, customer, employee, former employee, retiree or pensioner of the employer or any governmental entity.
  - Objects to, or refuses to participate in, any activity, policy or practice which the employee reasonably believes:
    - is in violation of a law, or a rule or regulation issued under the law or, if the employee is a licensed or certified health care professional, constitutes improper quality of patient care;
    - (2) is fraudulent or criminal; or
    - (3) is incompatible with a clear mandate of public policy concerning the public health, safety or welfare or protection of the environment. N.J.S.A. 34:19-3.
- 2. The protection against retaliation, when a disclosure is made to a public body, does not apply unless the employee has brought the activity, policy or practice to the attention of a supervisor of the employee by written notice and given the employer a reasonable opportunity to correct the activity, policy or practice. However, disclosure is not required where the employee reasonably believes that the activity, policy or practice is known to one or more supervisors of the employer or where the employee fears physical harm as a result of the disclosure, provided that the situation is emergency in nature.

# Your employer has designated the following contact person to receive written notifications, pursuant to paragraph 2 above (N.J.S.A. 34:19-4): Name: FIL BOYNSTON, FSQ: Address: 3H Mountain Blvd, Bld A Bloom 4922 Warren NS 00059 Telephone Number: 732 - 805 - 33100

#### This notice must be conspicuously displayed.

Once each year, employers with 10 or more employees must distribute notice of this law to their employees. If you need this document in a language other than English or Spanish, please call (609) 292-7832.



### La Ley de protección al empleado consciente

"Ley de protección del denunciante"

#### Acciones de represalia del empleador; protección de las acciones del empleado

- La ley de New Jersey prohíbe que los empleadores tomen medidas de represalia contra todo empleado que haga lo siguiente:
  - a. Divulgue o amenace con divulgar, ya sea a un supervisor o a una agencia pública toda actividad, directriz o norma del empleador o de cualquier otro empleador con el que exista una relación de negocios y que el empleado tiene motivos fundados para pensar que violan alguna ley, o en el caso de un trabajador licenciado o certificado de la salud y que tiene motivos fundados para pensar que se trata de una manera inadecuada de atención al paciente;
  - b. Facilite información o preste testimonio ante cualquier agencia pública que conduzca una investigación, audiencia o indagación sobre la violación de alguna ley, regla o reglamento que el empleador o algún otro empleador con el que exista una relación de negocios; o en el caso de un trabajador licenciado o certificado de la salud que facilite información o preste testimonio ante cualquier agencia pública que conduzca una investigación, audiencia o indagación sobre la calidad de la atención al paciente; o
  - c. Ofrece información concerniente al engaño o la tergiversación con accionistas, inversionistas, usuarios, pacientes, clientes, empleados, ex empleados, retirados o pensionados del empleador o de cualquier agencia gubernamental.
  - d. Ofrece información con respecto a toda actividad que se pueda percibir como delictiva o fraudulenta, toda directiva o práctica engañosa o de tergiversación que el empleado tenga motivos fundados para pensar que pudieran estafar a accionistas, inversionistas, usuarios, pacientes, clientes, empleados, ex empleados, retirados o pensionados del empleador o de cualquier agencia gubernamental.
  - e. Se opone o se niega a participar en alguna actividad, directriz o práctica que el empleado tiene motivos fundados para pensar que:
    - viola alguna ley, o regla o reglamento que dicta la ley o en el caso de un empleado licenciado o certificado en cuidado de la salud que tiene motivos fundados para pensar que constituya atención inadecuada al paciente;
    - (2) es fraudulenta o delictiva; o
    - (3) es incompatible con algún mandato establecido por las directrices públicas relacionadas con la salud pública, la seguridad o el bienestar o la protección del medio ambiente. Artículo 34:19-3 de las Leyes comentadas de New Jersey de protección del empleado consciente (N.J.S.A., por sus siglas en inglés)
- 2. No se puede acoger a la protección contra la represalia, cuando se hace una divulgación a un organismo público, a no ser que el empleado le informe al empleador de tal actividad, política o norma a través de un aviso por escrito y le haya dado al empleador una oportunidad razonable para corregir tal actividad, política o norma. Sin embargo, no es necesaria la divulgación en los casos en que el empleado tenga indicios razonables para creer que un supervisor o más de un supervisor del empleador tienen conocimiento de tal actividad, política o norma o en los casos en los que el empleado teme que tal divulgación pueda traer como consecuencia daños físicos a su persona siempre y cuando la naturaleza de la situación sea la de una situación de emergencia.

## Su empleador ha designado a la siguiente persona para recibir notificaciones de acuerdo al paralo 2, de la ley (N.J.S.A. 34:19-4): Nombre: FOR MONOTON BLACK (Al GA, FOROX 44) 20 Número de teléfono: 73.2 - 805 - 3360

#### Este aviso se debe exponer a la vista de todos.

Anualmente, patronos con 10 o más empleados, deberán distribuir notificación de esta ley a todos sus empleados. Si necesita este documento en algún otro idioma que no sea inglés o español, sírvase llamar al (609) 292-7832.



## **NBCUA Employee Complaint Form** Date\_\_\_\_\_ Attach additional sheets if necessary to fully complete all questions Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Department: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_SUPERVISOR: \_\_\_\_\_ Time period covered by this complaint: Individuals who allegedly committed the acts being complained of: Describe the nature and dates of the acts allegedly committed by each individual: Identify all persons with knowledge of the complained conduct: Are there any documents or other evidence that supports the occurrences described above? If you previously complained about this or related acts to a supervisor or official, please identify the individual to whom you complained, the date of the complaint, and any action taken. Have you missed any time from work or incurred any un-reimbursed medical expenses as a result of the alleged acts?

Are you afraid that someone may retaliate against you because you filed this complaint? If so, please identify the person(s) and indicate the reasons why you feel the person(s) may retaliate against you.				
What is your requested remedy for	this complaint?			
ACKNOWLEDGMENT				
The information provided above is tr	ue and correct to the best of my knowledge.			
BY:	DATE:			
witnesses with knowledge of the alleguill be notified that (1) the complaint	be necessary to interview you, the accused party, and any gations or defenses. All persons involved in the investigation is confidential, (2) that any unauthorized disclosures of tion or retaliation could result in disciplinary action up to and			
I am willing to cooperate fully in the evidence is deemed relevant.	investigation of my complaint and to provide whatever			
BY:	DATE:			



 

 30 Wyckoff Avenue
 Tel: 201.447.2660

 at Authority Drive
 Fax: 201.447.0247

 P.O. Box 255 Waldwick, NJ 07463

www.nbcua.com

#### **EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION**

(Attached)



Jo Wyckoff Avenue at Authority Drive P.O. Box 255 Waldwick, NJ 07463 Tel: 301.447.2mm Fax: 201.447.0247 www.nbcua.com

#### APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

	Last	First	M,I.	Telephone Number
NAME				
TAINE	Number and Street	City	State Zip Code	Are you in the U.S. on a visa that prohibits you from working? YES NO
ADDRESS				1E3 NO
New Jersey l	Driver's License	YES NO	Years of Residence	
Driver's Licen	se No.		In this state:	County:
Person to no Name: Address:	tify in case of accide	nt or emergency:	Phone Number Relationship to you	
10 mm at 10	vice Have you been in		rvice? YES NO	Honorably Discharged? YES NO
POSITION				
Job Applied for	ors		When can you star	t:
Can you work	any assigned shift?	Are	you available weekends?	Holidays?
YES	NO	YES		YES NO
the second second second second	iguages other than in speak, read or write	with your profession o	internships, licenses, certifications or reg ir trade. which license, certification or registratio	
Machines ope	rated and/or special ski	lls (including steno, so	oftware programs):	
Typing?	YES NO	WPM:		
Have you any	previous New Jersey S	tate, County or Munic	ipal Employment?	
YES	Permanent	Employer		Date:
NO	Temporary	Department		Job Title:
	ERIENCE (List most re		7711	In and the second
Present or last e	mproyer:	Stree	et Address;	Supervisor's name:

Time Employed: Mo. Yr. To Mo. Yr.	City	State Zip	Phone Number:
Your Duties:	141		Starting Salary:
Reason for Leaving:			Final Salary:
Previous employer:	Street Address	ž.	Supervisor's name:
Time Employed: Mo. Yr. To Mo. Yr.	City	State Zip	Phone Number.
Your Duties:			Starting Salary:
Reason for Leaving:			Final Salary:
Previous employer:	Street Address	8	Supervisor's name:
Time Employed: Mo. Yr. To Mo. Yr.	City	State Zip	Phone Number:
Your Duties:			Starting Salary:
Reason for Leaving:			Final Salary:
		Wall	k-in
Newspaper (give name):		Wall Other (indica	
Newspaper (give name): Employee (give name):			
Newspaper (give name):  Employee (give name):  REFERENCES  Do not give relatives or former employers as references.	Check here if you do no	Other (indicated)	ale):t employer
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## NJ DIVISION ON CIVIL RIGHTS GUIDE ON PRE-EMPLOYMENT INQUIRIES

Category	It is discriminatory to inquire about:	Some examples of acceptable inquiries:
Name	<ul> <li>a) The fact of a change of name or the original name of an applicant whose name has been legally changed</li> <li>b) Maiden name</li> </ul>	Whether or not the applicant has ever worked under another name or was the applicant educated under another name.  (Allowable only when the data is needed to verify the applicant's qualifications)
Birthplace and Residence	<ul> <li>a) Birthplace of applicant</li> <li>b) Birthplace of applicant's parents</li> <li>c) Requirement that applicant submit birth certificate, naturalization or baptismal record</li> <li>d) Own home, rent, board or live with parents</li> <li>e) Citizenship</li> </ul>	<ul><li>a) Are you in the United States on a visa, which prohibits you from working here?</li><li>b) Are you either a US citizen or a permanent resident alien?</li></ul>
Creed and Religion	<ul><li>a) Applicant's religious affiliation</li><li>b) Church, parish, or religious holidays observed by applicant</li></ul>	
Race or Color	<ul><li>a) Applicant's race</li><li>b) Color of applicant's skin, eyes, hair, etc.</li><li>c) Driver's license number</li></ul>	
Photographs	<ul><li>a) Photographs with application</li><li>b) Photographs after interview, but before a hiring</li></ul>	
Age	<ul> <li>a) Date of birth or age of applicant</li> <li>b) Age specifications, limitations, or implications in a newspaper advertisement which might bar workers under or over a certain age</li> <li>c) Driver's license number</li> </ul>	Applicant may be asked if he/she is over the minimum legal age and under a bona fide mandatory retirement age
Language	<ul> <li>a) Applicant's mother tongue</li> <li>b) Language commonly used by applicant at home</li> <li>c) How the applicant acquired ability to read, write, or speak a foreign language</li> </ul>	Language applicant speaks and/or writes fluently (only if job related)
Relatives	Name and/or address of any relative of the applicant	Name and address of person to be notified in case of accident or emergency
Military Experience	<ul> <li>a) Applicant's military experience in other than United States Armed Forces</li> <li>b) National Guard or Reserve Units of applicant</li> <li>c) Draft classification or other eligibility for military service</li> <li>d) Applicant's whereabouts during periods of armed conflict</li> <li>e) Dates, conditions and type of discharge</li> </ul>	a) Military experience of applicant in Armed Forces of United States only when used for employment history     b) Whether applicant has received any notice to report for duty in Armed Forces
Organizations	Any clubs, social fraternities, sororities, societies, lodges, or organizations to which the applicant belongs	Membership in a union, professional or trade organization

References	The name of applicant's pastor or religious leader	Names of persons willing to provide professional and/or character references for applicant
Sex and Marital Status	<ul> <li>a) Sex or marital status or any questions which would be used to determine same</li> <li>b) Number of dependents, number of children</li> <li>c) Spouse's occupation</li> </ul>	
Arrest and Conviction Record Height and Weight	The number and kind of arrests of an applicant  Any inquiry into height or weight of applicant	Convictions which bear a relationship to the job
Physical Disabilities	Any inquiry as to physical disability, which has no direct bearing on satisfactory performance of the specific job in question. (For example, questions as to the mobility of a person without the use of his or her legs, when the job in questions involves working in a stationary position.)	Does applicant have any physical disability, which would prevent him or her from satisfactorily performing the job? (For example, questions concerning hearing impairment are acceptable on applications for a telephone operation position.)
Education	Whether or not the applicant is a high school graduate	<ul><li>a) Show highest grade completed</li><li>b) Detail your educational background</li></ul>

	NBCUA PERFO	RMANCE APPRAIS	SAL
EMPLOYEE NAME:	SUPERVISOR:		
DEPARTMENT/JOB TITLE:		DATE OF 1	Hire:
PRESENT REVIEW DATE:	LAST REVIEW DAT	E: TIME IN POS	SITION (YRS.):
Use the Comments section to note goals I			
	Overall	Rating (circle)	
1 – Does not meet minimum standards	2 - Needs Improvement 3	- Meets Job Requirements 4	- Exceeds Expectations
TRAINING/ JOB KNOWLEDGE			es, procedures, tools, and
maintenance of certif	fications necessary to p	erform the position.	
☐ Lets certification expire. No desire to improve skills. Insufficient knowledge and understanding of the job.	□ New in a position and still learning. Often requires additional instruction. Making progress, but not fully proficient. Needs to improve certain skills or job knowledge.	☐ Fully understands job responsibilities. Maintains needed certification. Can operate all equipment required to perform his or her job.	☐ Takes the initiative to improve job through evaluation of job processes. Can lead work group through unusual or unique situations.
Comments:			
PERFORMANCE: Consider de established standards    Frequently damages government property and/or equipment. Work not up to expectations.  Comments:	•	Cation skills, and the quantum Completely performs job meeting all job standards. Consistently provides quality work requiring minimal revision to correct errors.	Job output continuously above standards and before deadlines. Takes initiative to take on other tasks whenever possible.
	employee's interest in t pearance, and discipline	<u>-</u>	ations received, organizational
☐ Frequently or repeatedly receives disciplinary actions and substantiated complaints from the community and coworkers.  Comments:	☐ Occasionally has disciplinary problems, but is working to correct behavior. Needs to project a positive outlook and pleasant manner.	☐ Never has any discipline problems. Supervisor has complete trust in employee. Always conforms to dress code.	☐ Consistent positive methods and behaviors, which translates into quality work. Has pride in work. Influences others in a positive way.
COOPERATION: Consider tea	amwork, or the ability t	o work with others in a	a cooperative and productive manner.
☐ Seldom works well with others. Difficult to work with. Does not promote teamwork. Files unsubstantiated grievances.	☐ Slow to help others.  Does not readily accept additional assignments required of job. Lack of tact or consideration for others.	☐ Fully cooperates with co-workers. Accepts new ideas. Helps others. Willing to work overtime as needed.	☐ Continually goes out of way to help co-workers.  Learns other job responsibilities to aid in coverage. Fosters teamwork.

CUSTOMER SERVICE: Consi	der responsiveness to p	public the needs and red	quests.
☐ Responds inappropriately to questions, requests, or situations.  Comments:	☐ Occasionally does not respond tactfully or completely.	☐ Exhibits courtesy and tact. Answers questions or refers to the appropriate party.	☐ Responds to requests with enthusiasm and a sense of commitment. Always follows through by providing or obtaining complete information.
JUDGMENT: Consider ability from manager.	to produce quality wo	rk in a cost conscious n	nanner without needing guidanc
☐ Constantly uses poor judgment occasionally increasing costs. Requires close and constant supervision.  Comments:	☐ Often afraid to make and take responsibility for decisions. Needs to better identify and communicate problems.	☐ Exemplifies good sense of judgment. Not afraid to make decisions when provided information. Learns from mistakes.	☐ Anticipates potential problems. Takes full responsibility for mistakes. Takes initiative to obtain information.
ATTENDANCE: Consider abs	enteeism and punctual	ity.	
☐ Frequently arrives to work late. Excessive absenteeism beyond allotted time.  Comments:	☐ Occasionally arrives late. Uses nearly all allotted sick time each year.	☐ Always arrives on time. Takes an average amount of sick time.	☐ Always prepared for work Highly reliable attendance.
Comments.			
VOLUNTEER: Consider will	ingness to volunteer at	work and in the comm	unity.
☐ Never volunteers to help. Puts down others who do volunteer work.	☐ Usually not interested in volunteering for projects, teams, etc.	☐ Willing to volunteer if asked to volunteer.	☐ Actively seeks opportunities to volunteer at both work or in the community.
Comments:			
DIRECTING WORK: Conside Does this person have supervisory respon  [ ] All the time as part of job requireme [ ] Supervises on an as needed basis.	sibilities?	, problem solving, lead	ership, and supervisory skills.
☐ Continually fails as a supervisor. Lack of leadership, planning, and organizational skills. Unit does not achieve objectives. Does not treat subordinates fairly.  Comments:	☐ New supervisor and still learning. Making progress, but not fully proficient. Having trouble making leap from co-worker to supervisor.	☐ Fully proficient and competent leader. Delegates when needed. Solves problems and makes decisions. Is in complete control of department and sets an example.	☐ Goes out of way to help subordinates. Consistently treats all employees fairly. Develops highly effective work plans. Assumes responsibility for solving problems.
Expression designation			
EMPLOYEE COMMENTS:			
I have reviewed the appraisa	al and discussed its co	ntents with my superv	isor.
EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE:		DA	те:
SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE		DA'	TE:

#### **AUTHORITY COUNSELING ACTION PLAN**

EMPLOYEE NAME	DATE
DEPARTMENT	POSITION
I met with the above employee to discu	ass performance regarding the following problem(s):
This is a $\square$ verbal, $\square$ written, $\square$ final	meeting with this employee concerning this matter.
The reason for the counseling session:	
Employee's performance is not accept	able for the following reasons:

Employee must achieve the following goals in	order to reach acceptable standards:
Employee should reach these goals by:	
☐ Immediately	
☐ Employee is on a probationary status and	d will be re-evaluated on
☐ Employee is Suspended: Dates:	
Consequences of failure to improve or achiev	ve goals:
☐ May result in further disciplinary	action, up to and including termination.
Termination.	
Employee's Comments:	
I have read the above. I understand that it camount of time I have to attain the stated per consequences of my failure to improve or attain	rformance goals. I also understand the
Employee Signature:	Date:
Department Head Signature	Date:
Executive Director Signature:	Date:

#### **AUTHORITY EMPLOYEE EVALUATION CHECKLIST**

Be Prepared
• Know the objectives and goals of the meeting.
Time and Place
• Choose a quiet, private spot with as few interruptions as possible.
Conducting the interview
<ul> <li>Create a positive environment and help the employee feel at ease.</li> <li>Give balanced feedback, both positive and negative, but start with the positive.</li> <li>Focus on the job, NOT the person.</li> <li>Ask questions and allow the employee to provide feedback.</li> <li>When discussing areas for improvement, discuss methods and objectives for improving.</li> <li>Discuss possibilities for advancement, the employee's aspirations and professional development necessary to be a candidate for such future positions.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Conclusion</li> <li>Summarize and review the important points of the discussion.</li> <li>Restate the action steps that have been recommended and provide a time frame for completion.</li> <li>Make sure employee reviews the appraisal and provides comments.</li> <li>Have employee sign the acknowledgement that the employee has read the appraisal (does not signify agreement with the content).</li> </ul>
Follow-up
<ul> <li>Follow-up with the employee to see how plans are proceeding within the given time</li> </ul>

- Follow-up with the employee to see how plans are proceeding within the given time frames.
- Offer the employee assistance in achieving objectives and encourage discussion of successes and obstacles.

### Fingerprint and Background Check Consent Form for Employees and Job Applicants

In accordance with Authority Policy and N.J.S.A. 15A:3A-1 et seq, I understand that, as a condition of continued employment or new employment, the Authority requires background checks on all individuals.

By signing this form, I agree to be fingerprinted and consent to a criminal background record check as a condition of new employment, continued employment, or voluntary service. I also represent, attest, and certify that I have never been convicted of any of the following crimes or disorderly persons offenses as defined by New Jersey law or the law of any other state, or that the guilty disposition of any of the crimes and/or offenses has been amended to a status of not guilty, or that any previous charges, as listed below, have been expunged:

2C:11 HOMICIDE all offenses								
C:12 ASSAULT, ENDANGERING, THREATS all offenses								
2C:13 KIDNAPPING all offenses								
2C:14 SEXUAL OFFENSES all offenses								
2C:15 ROBBERY all offenses								
2C:20 THEFT all offenses								
2C:24 OFFENSES AGAINST THE FAMILY, CHILDREN AND INCOMPETENTS all offenses								
2C:35 CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES all offenses <b>except</b> paragraph (4) of subsection a. of NJS.2C:35-10								
Name (please print)								
Applicant's signature Date								

#### **Receipt for Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual**

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of Authority's Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. I agree to read it thoroughly. I agree that if there is any policy or provision in the manual that I do not understand, I will seek clarification from my supervisor, the Executive Director or the Administrative Assistant. I understand that the Authority is an "at will" employer and consistent with applicable Federal and State law, as well as applicable bargaining unit agreements, employment with the Authority is not for a fixed term or definite period and may be terminated at the will of either party, with or without cause, and without prior notice. No supervisor or other representative of the Authority has the authority to enter into any agreement for employment for any specified period of time, or to make any agreement contrary to the above. In addition, I understand that this manual states Authority's personnel policies in effect on the date of publication. I understand that nothing contained in the manual may be construed as creating a promise of future benefits or a binding contract with Authority for benefits or for any other purpose. I also understand that these policies and procedures are continually evaluated and may be amended, modified or terminated at any time.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_
Print Name:

Please sign and date this receipt and return it to the Administrative Assistant.

\_\_\_\_\_

#### RESOLUTION

No. 70-2017

Date: November 8, 2017

# RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE DECLARATION OF OFFICIAL INTENT UNDER TREASURY REGULATION SECTION 1.150-2 TO REIMBURSE PRIOR EXPENDITURES RELATED TO VARIOUS SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority (the "Authority") intends to issue debt obligations, the interest on which is excluded from gross income under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") and that will be used to finance various sewer improvements, including improvements to the collection system gravity mains (the debt obligations herein referred to as "Project Debt Obligations" herein referred to as the "Project");

**WHEREAS**, the Authority intends to finance the Project, in part, with the Project Debt Obligations but may pay for certain costs of the Project ("Project Costs") prior to the issuance of the Project Debt Obligations with funds of the Authority which are not borrowed funds;

**WHEREAS**, the Authority desires to preserve its rights to treat an allocation of proceeds of the Project Debt Obligations to the reimbursement of Project Costs paid by the Authority prior to the issuance of the Project Debt Obligations as an expenditure for such Project Costs to be reimbursed for purposes of Sections 103 and 141-150 of the Code.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the governing body of the Authority as follows:

- **Section 1.** The Authority reasonably expects to reimburse its expenditure of Project Costs paid prior to the issuance of the Project Debt Obligations with proceeds of its Project Debt Obligations.
- **Section 2.** This resolution is intended to be and hereby is a declaration of the Authority's official intent to reimburse the Authority for expenditure of Project Costs by the Authority paid prior to the issuance of the Project Debt Obligations with the proceeds of the Project Debt Obligations, in accordance with Treasury Regulation Section 150-2.
- **Section 3.** The maximum principal amount of the Project Debt Obligations expected to be issued to finance the Project is \$6,000,000.

**Section 4.** The Project Costs to be reimbursed with the proceeds of the Project Debt Obligations will be "capital expenditures" in accordance with the meaning of Section 150 of the Code.

**Section 5.** No reimbursement allocation will employ an "abusive arbitrage device" under Treasury Regulation Section 1.148-10 to avoid the arbitrage restrictions or to avoid the restrictions under Sections 142 through 147 of the Code. The proceeds of the Project Debt Obligations used to reimburse the Authority for Project Costs, or funds corresponding to such amounts, will not be used in a manner that results in the creation of "replacement proceeds", including "sinking funds", "pledged funds", or funds subject to a "negative pledge" (as such terms are defined in Treasury Regulation Section 1.148-1) of the Project Debt Obligations or another issue of debt obligations of the Authority, other than amounts deposited into a "bona fide debt service fund" (as defined in Treasury Regulation Section 1.148-1).

**Section 6.** All reimbursement allocations will occur not later than 18 months after the later of: (i) the date the expenditure from a source other than the Project Debt Obligations is paid; or (ii) the date the Project is "placed in service" (within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2) or abandoned, but in no event more than 3 years after the expenditure is paid.

**Section 7.** This resolution will take effect immediately.

The foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the governing body of Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority at a meeting thereof duly called and held on November 8, 2017.

		Chairman
	Secretary	
[SEAL]	•	

	Bonagura	Chewcaskie	Danubio	DePhillips	Gabbert	Lo Iacono	Kelaher	Plumley	Kasparian
Offered									
Seconded									
Aye									
Nay									
Absent									
Abstain			•				_		
Recuse									

#### RESOLUTION

#### NO. 71-2017

Date: November 8, 2017

### RESOLUTION AMENDING AN AGREEMENT WITH T&M ASSOCIATES TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING SERVICES

**WHEREAS,** by Resolution No. 18-2017, the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority (the "Authority") identified a number of firms as qualified to perform engineering services required by the Authority pursuant to a Request for Qualifications for such position, which notice thereof was published on January 13, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No. 27-2017 (the "Original Resolution") dated February 21, 2017, the Authority retained T&M Associates (the "Engineering Firm") to provide general engineering services and the Authority and Engineering Firm entered into a professional services agreement (the "Agreement"); and

**WHEREAS,** the Original Resolution and Agreement provides for the Engineering Firm's compensation to be capped at \$90,000 and in the event the Engineering Firm anticipates it will exceed that amount, to seek further authorization from the Authority at such time; and

**WHEREAS,** the Engineering Firm has notified the Authority that they will exceed the budget of \$90,000 for general engineering services due to various tasks and has requested the Authority increase the not to exceed amount by \$95,000 for this additional work to \$185,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority's Certifying Finance Officer has certified that funds are available to increase the budget for the Engineering Firm.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Commissioners of the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority the following:

- 1. The Original Resolution and the Professional Services Agreement with T&M Associates be amended to increase the not to exceed amount to \$185,000 for general engineering services.
- 2. The Original Resolution and Agreement, unless expressly modified, shall remain in full force and effect.
- 3. The Certifying Finance Officer's Certification of Available Funds shall be maintained on file at the Authority and made a part hereof.
- 4. Notice of this amendment shall be published in accordance with applicable law.
- 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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#### RESOLUTION

No. 71-2017

Date: November 8, 2017

### RESOLUTION AMENDING AN AGREEMENT WITH T&M ASSOCIATES TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING SERVICES

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority upon a roll call vote of all Commissioners of the Authority eligible to vote at a regular meeting held on November 8, 2017.

	MICHAEL KASPARIAN
	CHAIRMAN
ALISON GORDON	
SECRETARY	

	Bonagura	Chewcaskie	Danubio	DePhillips	Gabbert	Kelaher	Lo Iacono	Plumley	Kasparian
Offered									
Seconded									
Aye									
Nay									
Absent									
Abstain									

#### **CERTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS**

I hereby certify to the Board of Commissioners of the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority that sufficient funds are available for payment of the following:

CONTRACT NO.:	Consulting Engineer for General Engineering Services
VENDOR:	T&M Associates
AMOUNT:	\$95,000
ACCOUNT NO.:	2100-4030 – Engineering
Date: 11 3 17	——————————————————————————————————————

James Rotundo, Certifying Finance Officer

#### RESOLUTION

#### NO. 72-2017

Date: November 8, 2017

### RESOLUTION AMENDING AN AGREEMENT WITH TIGHE & BOND TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING SERVICES

**WHEREAS,** by Resolution No. 18-2017, the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority (the "Authority") identified a number of firms as qualified to perform engineering services required by the Authority pursuant to a Request for Qualifications for such position, which notice thereof was published on January 13, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No. 30-2017 (the "Original Resolution") dated February 21, 2017, the Authority retained Tighe & Bond (the "Engineering Firm") to provide engineering services related to the 2018 User Service Charges and the Authority and Engineering Firm entered into a professional services agreement (the "Agreement"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Original Resolution and Agreement provides for the Engineering Firm's compensation to be capped at \$42,400 and in the event the Engineering Firm anticipates it will exceed that amount, to seek further authorization from the Authority at such time; and

**WHEREAS**, the Engineering Firm has submitted a proposal dated October 31, 2017 to the Authority for additional engineering services related to the calculation of the 2018 User Service Charges; and

**WHEREAS,** this additional work will cause the Engineering Firm to exceed the budget of \$42,400 for the calculation of the 2018 User Service Charges and has requested the Authority increase the not to exceed amount by \$2,500 for this additional work to \$44,900; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority's Certifying Finance Officer has certified that funds are available to increase the budget for the Engineering Firm.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Commissioners of the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority the following:

- 1. The Original Resolution and the Professional Services Agreement with Tighe & Bond be amended to increase the not to exceed amount to \$44,900 due to the additional engineering services related to the calculation of the 2018 User Service Charges.
- 2. The Executive Director is hereby authorized to sign Amendment No. 1 as submitted by Tighe & Bond.
- 3. The Original Resolution and Agreement, unless expressly modified, shall remain in full force and effect.
- 4. The Certifying Finance Officer's Certification of Available Funds shall be maintained on file at the Authority and made a part hereof.
- 5. Notice of this amendment shall be published in accordance with applicable law.
- 6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

-

#### RESOLUTION

No. 72-2017

Date: November 8, 2017

### RESOLUTION AMENDING AN AGREEMENT WITH TIGHE & BOND TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING SERVICES

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority upon a roll call vote of all Commissioners of the Authority eligible to vote at a regular meeting held on November 8, 2017.

	Bonagura	Chewcaskie	Danubio	DePhillips	Gabbert	Kelaher	Lo Iacono	Plumley	Kasparian
Offered									
Seconded									
Aye									
Nay									
Absent									
Abstain									

#### CERTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

I hereby certify to the Board of Commissioners of the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority that sufficient funds are available for payment of the following:

CONTRACT NO.:	Consulting Engineer for 2018 User Service Charges
VENDOR:	Tighe & Bond
AMOUNT:	\$2,500
ACCOUNT NO.:	2100-4030 - Engineering
Date: <u> </u>	James All
	James Rotundo, Certifying Finance Officer

#### RESOLUTION

No. 73-2017

Date: November 8, 2017

#### PROPOSED SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION 70 PETERSON PLACE BLOCK 139 LOT 50 TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH, NEW JERSEY

**WHEREAS,** an application has been made to the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority (hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Authority") by Salim Bagdadi, Peterson Place, LLC (hereinafter referred to as the "Applicant") for approval of a proposed sanitary sewer extension to be located at 70 Peterson Place in the Township of Mahwah (hereinafter referred to as the "Project"); and

**WHEREAS,** the Project proposes to provide sanitary sewer service to five (5) proposed single family dwellings in the Township of Mahwah; and

**WHEREAS,** the Authority's Technical Advisor has reviewed the application and the documents and drawings submitted in support thereof and, by memorandum dated October 20, 2017 has recommended that the Authority approve the Project, subject to fulfillment of certain terms and conditions; and

**WHEREAS,** finding that when completed, the average daily flow from the Project will be 1,500 gallons per day (gpd) and 5 additional residential EDUs will become tributary to the Authority's system from the Township of Mahwah.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

**RESOLVED,** by the Commissioners of the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, that the application made by Salim Bagdadi, Peterson Place, LLC for a proposed sanitary sewer extension to be located 70 Peterson Place in the Township of Mahwah be approved upon the condition that the Applicant, its principals, agents, successors or assigns fulfill the following terms and conditions:

- 1. The construction shall conform to all applicable requirements of Township of Mahwah;
- 2. The installation of the sewers and appurtenances be inspected and approved by the Township of Mahwah;

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#### RESOLUTION

No. 73-2017

Date: November 8, 2017

#### PROPOSED SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION 70 PETERSON PLACE BLOCK 139 LOT 50 TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH, NEW JERSEY

- 3. That all newly constructed sewers be tested for infiltration and exfiltration and that such testing be observed and the results approved by an Authority engineer who has been provided with 2 days notice of such testing;
- 4. That the Applicant pay for engineering expenses incurred by the Authority for all inspection and testing of the sewers and appurtenances;
- 5. That the Applicant pay for all Authority application fees, legal fees and other application, administrative, technical or any other expenses relating to review of the Project;
- 6. That any manholes constructed or modified by reason of this Project be fitted with sewer guards to prevent inflow. All manholes constructed must be installed with all required waterproofing measures, including exterior painting and pipe gasket interlock;
- 7. That water conserving plumbing fixtures be installed in all new building construction to be serviced by the Project;
- 8. That the Authority be notified by the Applicant or its designee prior to commencement of sanitary sewer installation;
- 9. That prior to placing this connection into service, the Applicant must submit to the Authority for approval NJDEP Form WQM-005; and
- 10. That the Applicant comply with the rules and regulations of the Authority and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; and be it

			_			_				
	RESOLUTION No. 73-2017									
Date: November 8, 2017										
the forego	PROPOSED SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION 70 PETERSON PLACE BLOCK 139 LOT 50 TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH, NEW JERSEY  FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon written assurance of fulfillment by the Applicant of the foregoing terms and conditions, the Authority Superintendent be and is herewith authorized on behalf of the Authority to execute such approvals of the Project as may be required by									
		umority to encies having				the Projec	et as in	ay be rec	quired by	
County U	Itilities A	ertify that the Authority up neeting held	on a roll	call vote of	f all Com	-	•		_	
					CHAII	RMAN				
SECRETA	ARY									
В	Sonagura	Chewcaskie	Danubio	DePhillips	Gabbert	Lo Iacono	Kelaher	Plumley	Kasparian	
Offered										
econded										
Aye										
Nay										
Absent										
Abstain										

\_\_\_\_\_

#### RESOLUTION

#### No. 74-2017

Date: November 8, 2017

### AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey encourages local units to enter into agreements for the joint provision of municipal services; and

**WHEREAS,** the State of New Jersey authorizes entering into such agreements for shared services pursuant to NJSA 40A:65-1 et. seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority (the "Authority") and the Borough of Allendale (the "Borough") had entered into a Shared Services Agreement on February 21, 2017 with a termination date of December 31, 2017 for the Authority to 1) act as the New Jersey Licensed Sewer Operator for the Borough 2) respond to sanitary sewer collection emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week 3) coordinate all third party repairs of the collections system 4) coordinate, participate and correspond to any and all NJDEP inspections and actions regarding the sanitary sewer collection system 5) coordinate with the Borough any NJDEP hotline calls and correspondence regarding the sanitary collection system 6) upon request, coordinate and conduct a manhole inspection program and 7) upon request, can conduct New Jersey State Certified Backflow Preventer tests; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has adopted its Resolution No. 17-266 authorizing entering into a new shared services agreement with the Authority to receive the same services as previously provided; and

**WHEREAS,** the Authority desires to enter into this agreement with the Borough for a duration of one (1) year subject to the terms and conditions set forth in said agreement attached hereto.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Commissioners of the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority:

\_\_\_\_

#### RESOLUTION

No. 74-2017

Date: November 8, 2017

### AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE

- 1. The Authority agrees to enter into a Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Allendale for a duration of one (1) year to provide the services described in Paragraph 3 above; and
- 2. that the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Authority be and is hereby authorized on behalf of the Authority to execute the Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Allendale annexed hereto and made a part thereof.

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that this is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Authority upon a roll call vote of all Commissioners of the Authority eligible to vote at the meeting held on **November 8, 2017.** 

	CHAIRMAN
SECRETARY	

	Bonagura	Chewcaskie	Danubio	DePhillips	Gabbert	Kelaher	Lo Iacono	Plumley	Kasparian
Offered									
Seconded									
Aye									
Nay									
Absent									
Abstain									

#### SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT

THIS SHARED	<b>SERVICES</b>	AGREEMENT,	made and	entered	into th	is	day	of
 , 20	, by and a	mong:						

THE BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE, a Municipal Corporation of the State of New Jersey, in the County of Bergen, hereinafter referred to as "Allendale" and the NORTHWEST BERGEN COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY, doing business at 30 Wyckoff Avenue, P.O. Box 255, Waldwick, New Jersey 07463, hereinafter referred to as "NBCUA".

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey encourages local units to enter into agreements for the joint provision of services; and

WHEREAS, the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act (N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 *et. seq.*) promotes the broad use of shared services as a technique to reduce local expenses funded by property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act (N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 *et. seq.*) allows for any local unit to enter into an agreement with any other local unit or units to provide or receive any services that each local unit participating in the agreement is empowered to provide or receive within its own jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Allendale and the NBCUA have researched the feasibility of entering into an agreement under the authority of Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, whereby the NBCUA would provide to Allendale the services of a licensed sewer operator, in addition to other services as outlined more specifically in Paragraph 3 of this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Allendale has adopted Resolution # 17-20 which authorizes Allendale to enter into an agreement with the NBCUA, for the services as outlined in Paragraph 3.

NOW, THEREFORE, this Agreement is entered into by and among the Borough of Allendale and the NBCUA for the purpose of defining and specifying the obligations of the parties and Allendale and the NBCUA hereby agree as follows:

- 1. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et. seq., both Allendale and the NBCUA shall adopt the appropriate Resolution, which will formally authorize the entering into of this Agreement between the parties.
- 2. The duration of this Agreement shall be for a period of one (1) year following the commencement date. The commencement date shall be January 1, 2018.
- 3. The NBCUA shall provide the following services to the Borough of Allendale:
  - a. The NBCUA shall act as the New Jersey Licensed Sewer Operator for the Borough of Allendale.

- b. NBCUA will respond to sanitary sewer collection emergencies 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- c. NBCUA will coordinate all third party repairs of the collections system.
- d. NBCUA will, when necessary, coordinate, participate and correspond to any and all NJDEP inspections and actions regarding the sanitary collection system.
- e. NBCUA will coordinate with Allendale any NJDEP Hotline calls and correspondence regarding the sanitary collection system.
- f. NBCUA, upon request, can coordinate and conduct a manhole inspection program that will involve the physical inspection of every manhole within Allendale over a three to five year cycle.
- g. NBCUA, upon request, can conduct annual NJ State Certified Backflow Preventer tests on all of your backflow prevention devises.
- 4. In consideration for the services to be rendered by the NBCUA to Allendale, pursuant to Paragraph 3 above, Allendale shall pay to NBCUA:
  - a. Four (4) equal installments of \$1,000.00 on or before March 1<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, for a total annual compensation of \$4,000.00.

b.	Non-Business hours – emergency responses (per man)	\$107.14/hr
c.	Business hours emergency/non-basic repair and catch	\$ 85.72/hr
	basin maintenance (per man)	
d.	Third Party Contractors for repairs and/or spare parts	\$Direct Cost
e.	Manhole Inspection Program	\$ 45.00/MH
f.	Backflow Preventer Tests	\$150.00/unit

- 5. The NBCUA shall provide Allendale with an invoice reflecting all time and work provided by its staff for repairs and response service during the previous month. Said invoices shall be paid by Allendale within 45 days of receipt.
- 6. The parties agree to be bound by this Agreement for a minimum of twelve (12) months. Starting six (6) months from the Commencement Date, either party may terminate this Agreement by giving at least six (6) months written notice to the other party.
- 7. Each party to this Agreement represents to the other party thereto that the Officials executing this Agreement are fully authorized and empowered to do so and to bind the parties to the terms of this Agreement, pursuant to law.
- 8. The parties recognize that the individuals who shall be designated as the Primary Contact Persons are, the Licensed Sewer Operator and Superintendent of the NBCUA for the NBCUA and the Manager of the Borough's Public Works Department, for Allendale. The Primary Contact individual shall be noticed on all issues of importance and shall be responsible for initiating all requests for repairs and corrective actions to be carried out by NBCUA or Allendale, as applicable.

- 8. The Primary Contact Persons shall jointly and cooperatively implement and complete a reporting form to memorialize and record all required and/or performed repairs, corrective actions and responses to Allendale's collection system.
- 9. The NBCUA will provide a certificate of insurance designating Allendale as an additional insured, with the same limits and coverage as the NBCUA has in place with their current insurance program.
- 10. Allendale assumes all liability for, and agrees to indemnify and hold the NBCUA and its agents, servants, employees, guests, licensees and invitees, harmless against any and all claims, losses, damages, injuries and expenses, arising out of, resulting from, or incurred in connection with any acts or omissions by Allendale, its agents, servants or employees.
- 11. The effective date of this Agreement shall be January 1, 2018 and the expiration shall be December 31, 2018, unless the agreement is terminated pursuant to paragraph 6 above.
- 12. The NBCUA agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, county and municipal laws, rules and regulations.
- 13. The terms of this Agreement shall constitute the entire understanding between the parties and may only be amended by a written document executed by both parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto set their hands and seals, this month, day and year first above written.

ATTEST:	BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE
Ce Dold	By: MAYOR
Date: 10[30] 17	
ATTEST:	NORTHWEST BERGEN COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY
	By:CHAIRMAN
Date:	

#### RESOLUTION BOROUGH OF ALLENDALE BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

DATE: 10/26/2017

**RESOLUTION# 17-266** 

Council	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Bernstein		/	/			
Homan						/
McSwiggan			/			
Sasso						/
Strauch			/			
Wilczynski	/		/			
Mayor White						

**WHEREAS**, the Borough is in need of a NJ Licensed Collection System Operator and certain sanitary sewer services; and

WHEREAS, Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority (NBCUA), has submitted a shared services proposal for such services dated October 18, 2017, which the Water, Sewer, and Public Utilities Committee finds acceptable and which has been recommended to the Governing Body; and

WHEREAS, NBCUA is duly qualified and is available to perform such services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has attached hereto a Certification that adequate funds are or will be duly budgeted to pay for this agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Governing Body that it does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign the Shared Services Proposal or an appropriate agreement to reflect these services for 2018.

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Allendale on October 26, 2017.

Michelle Ryan Deputy Municipal Clerk

**RESOLUTION** 

No. 75-2017

Date: November 8, 2017

RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE NORTHWEST BERGEN COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING SALARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR CERTAIN NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAINING EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority ("Authority") is a

public body corporate and politic of the State of New Jersey incorporated pursuant to

N.J.S.A. 40:14B-1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:14B-18, the Authority may appoint and

employ managerial personnel, professional employees, secretaries and other personnel as

it may determine are necessary for its efficient operations and may determine their duties

and compensation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Executive Director prepared salary recommendations for certain

non-collective bargaining unit employees which salary and resulting salary levels are set

forth in Exhibit A attached hereto; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Authority's Board of

Commissioners, that:

1. The aforesaid recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length.

2. The salary increases set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto be and hereby are

granted to the non-collective bargaining units employees referenced therein.

3. The salary increases set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto shall be retroactive

to July 1, 2017 for all employees listed in Exhibit A with the exception of the

Executive Director.

4. The salary increase of the Executive Director as set forth in Exhibit A attached

hereto shall be retroactive to January 1, 2017.

**ADOPTED**: November 8, 2017

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#### **RESOLUTION**

No. 75-2017

Date: November 8, 2017

## RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE NORTHWEST BERGEN COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING SALARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR CERTAIN NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAINING EMPLOYEES

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority upon a roll call vote of all Commissioners of the Authority eligible to vote at a regular meeting held on November 8, 2017.

	MICHAEL KASPARIAN
	CHAIRMAN
ALISON GORDON	
SECRETARY	

	Bonagura	Chewcaskie	Danubio	DePhillips	Gabbert	Kelaher	Lo Iacono	Plumley	Kasparian
Offered									
Seconded									
Aye									
Nay									
Absent									
Abstain									
Recuse									