

**FILE**

**BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

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In the Matter of the Application of Aqua :  
Ohio, Inc. to Amend the Struthers Water :  
Division's Certificate of Public :  
Necessity to Expand the Territory to : Case No. 08-768 -WW-AAC  
Which the Struthers Water Division :  
Provides Water Service :

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**TESTIMONY OF**

**WALTER J. PISHKUR**

**ON BEHALF OF  
AQUA OHIO, INC.  
STRUTHERS DIVISION**

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1 **Q. Mr. Pishkur, would you please state your name and business address?**

2 **A.** Walter J. Pishkur, 6650 South Avenue, Boardman Township, Mahoning County,  
3 Ohio 44512.

4 **Q. Mr. Pishkur, by whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

5 **A.** I am President of Aqua Ohio, Inc. successor to Consumers Ohio Water Company.

6 **Q. Will you please briefly outline your educational, professional and business**  
7 **experience?**

8 **A.** I graduated cum laude from The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, in  
9 March, 1986, receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration.

10 I completed my Masters of Business Administration Degree at the University of  
11 Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in May 1992. My professional affiliations include  
12 memberships in the Ohio and Illinois Chapters of the American Water Works

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1 Association, the National Association of Water Companies and the National Rural  
2 Water Association. I am currently a Director of the Ohio Chapter of the National  
3 Association of Water Companies. I hold a Class 3 Water Operations license in  
4 the State of Ohio and a Class A Water Operations license in the State of Illinois.

5 My thirty six (36) years of water utility experience includes employment  
6 by a municipal utility located in Hubbard, Ohio, from 1970 through 1980. During  
7 my tenure with the City of Hubbard, I worked in all phases of water and electric  
8 utility operations. My employment duties with the City included water plant  
9 operator, meter reader and manager of the chemical/bacteria laboratory. In March  
10 of 1980, I assumed the position of Business Manager with Ohio Water Service  
11 Company, Struthers Division, located in Struthers, Ohio. That Company was a  
12 wholly-owned subsidiary of Consumers Water Company. In this position, I  
13 supervised all of the Division's accounting and customer service activities. In  
14 July, 1982, I was appointed to the position of Division Manager at the Company's  
15 Marysville Division located in Marysville, Ohio. I was responsible for the on-site  
16 planning, management and operations. These duties included, among other  
17 things, preparing annual and long-term operating and capital budgets, preparing  
18 testimony for rate case activity, personnel decisions, and media contacts.

19 In October, 1986, I was promoted to Executive Vice President and  
20 General Manager of Inter-State Water Company located in Danville, Illinois, also  
21 a wholly-owned subsidiary of Consumers Water Company. There I oversaw the  
22 on-site operation of a regional water Company, which included all financial,  
23 personnel, budgetary, ratemaking, and public liaison tasks.

1    **Q.    Have you previously testified before any regulatory agencies?**

2    A.    Yes, before the Illinois Commerce Commission in Docket Nos. 87-0310, 88-  
3       0001, 88-0187, 88-0250, 89-0050, 89-0424, 90-0207, 90-0249 and 91-0176. I  
4       have also testified before the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio in the  
5       following dockets: 84-242-WW-AIR, 92-1995-WW-AIR, 93-1865-WW-AIR, 95-  
6       1076-WW-AIR, 01-2924-WW-AIR, and 03-2290-WW-AIR.

7    **Q.    When did you rejoin Aqua Ohio and in what capacity?**

8    A.    I rejoined Aqua Ohio in June 1992 and became President in August of 1992.

9    **Q.    Having worked in the private water supply business and in Northeast Ohio**  
10       **with Aqua Ohio for an accumulated period of 26 years, do you feel that you**  
11       **have expertise in operating a water service company and delivering water**  
12       **service to customers' homes and businesses?**

13   A.    Yes, I do.

14   **Q.    What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?**

15   A.    Aqua Ohio has filed the instant application to seek approval from the Commission  
16       to amend Struthers' Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to include  
17       two additional separate territories to which Struthers seeks to be authorized to  
18       provide water service. My testimony is in support of Aqua Ohio's Application.

19   **Q.    Can you please describe the two territories set forth in Aqua's Application**  
20       **for which the Struthers Division seeks authority to provide water service?**

21   A.    Both of the territories are in Mahoning County, Ohio. One territory is located in  
22       Springfield Township. The second territory is a portion of Beaver Township.

1       The accurate legal description of each territory is set forth in Aqua Ohio's  
2       Application.

3       **Q.    To your knowledge, is there a present and continuing need by the public for**  
4       **water service in both of the territories set forth in Aqua's Application?**

5       A.    Yes as to both of the territories set forth in Aqua's Application.

6       **Q.    What is the factual basis for your conclusion that there is a present and**  
7       **continuing need by the public for water service in the Springfield Township**  
8       **Territory?**

9       A.    Aqua Ohio was contacted by the Mahoning County Sanitary Engineer, the  
10       Mahoning County Commissioners and the Springfield Township Trustees and  
11       requested to provide water service to the Springfield territory. The reason for the  
12       request is that private residential wells in the area are contaminated.

13       **Q.    Please describe how Aqua Ohio intends to provide water service to the**  
14       **Springfield Township Territory economically and efficiently?**

15       A.    Aqua Ohio currently serves approximately 75% of Springfield Township. The  
16       new service territory merely requires a water main extension. The total cost of  
17       the project is projected to be \$1.5 million, and Aqua Ohio will contribute  
18       \$390,000 of that total.

19       **Q.    What is the projected time frame for providing water service to the**  
20       **Springfield Township Territory?**

21       A.    Aqua Ohio intends to initiate water service to the Springfield Township Territory  
22       by November of 2008.

1    **Q.     Please describe the terms and conditions upon which Aqua Ohio will provide**  
2           **water service to the customers in the Springfield Township Territory?**

3    A.    Aqua Ohio will apply all applicable provisions of its Struthers tariff to serve this  
4           new territory.

5    **Q.     What is the factual basis for your conclusion that there is a present and**  
6           **continuing need by the public for water service in the Beaver Township**  
7           **Territory?**

8    A.    Aqua Ohio is currently serving a development that is contiguous to the requested  
9           territory. The developer is requesting water service to his expanded development  
10          which is incorporated in the requested territory.

11   **Q.     Please describe how Aqua Ohio intends to provide water service to the**  
12          **Beaver Township Territory economically and efficiently?**

13   A.    Since Aqua Ohio is currently serving the existing contiguous development,  
14          extending service to the new area will require only a main extension.

15   **Q.     What is the projected time frame for providing water service to the Beaver**  
16          **Township Territory?**

17   A.    Aqua Ohio currently anticipates serving this territory by spring of 2009. The  
18          developer will pay the entire cost of this project.

19   **Q.     Please describe the terms and conditions upon which Aqua Ohio will provide**  
20          **water service to the customers in the Beaver Township Territory?**

21   A.    Aqua Ohio will apply all applicable provisions of its Struthers tariff to serve this  
22          new territory.

23

1   **Q.    Will the current Struthers customers be subsidizing the costs of the facilities**  
2       **necessary to provide water to either of the two territories set forth in the**  
3       **Application?**

4   **A.    No.**

5   **Q.    Will the current Struthers customers be subsidizing the water rates of the**  
6       **customers in either of the two territories set forth in the Application?**

7   **A.    No.**

8   **Q.    To your knowledge, is there any other entity, public or private, that is**  
9       **capable of economically and efficiently providing the facilities and services**  
10      **needed by the public for water service in either of the territories set forth in**  
11      **Aqua Ohio's Application?**

12  **A.    No.**

13  **Q.    Thank you, Mr. Pishkur. Does this conclude your testimony?**

14  **A.    Yes, it does.**

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18  ND: 4828-3730-4322, v. 5