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ASHTABULA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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May 12, 2015

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Docketing Case Number 15-863-WW-SIC
Aqua Ohio Inc.

Dear Committee Chairperson and Members:

Reference is made to the subject docketing case as submitted to the Commission by Aqua Ohio, Inc. on May 1, 2015. The Ashtabula County Board of Commissioners hereby submits unequivocal opposition to the proposed 4.25% System Improvement Charge (SIC) application in its entirety as it is clearly unjust to the people of Ashtabula County who are served by the Ashtabula County Water System, a bulk water consumer of Aqua Ohio, Inc., and solely responsible for financing the operations, maintenance and capital improvements of the water distribution system.

Notwithstanding a bulk water rate increase to the County less than a year ago, the Board maintains the position that a SIC, clearly a means of capital cost recovery, and while reasonably justifiable for planned capital improvements to Corporation-owned assets solely, poses an unreasonable burden to the County Water System and its customers as no capital improvements to the County's infrastructure are sponsored or otherwise funded in-part whatsoever by Aqua Ohio, Inc.

Noting a substantial user base of the Ashtabula County Water System comprised of residential customers, the Board of Commissioners respectfully requests careful consideration by the Commission to Aqua Ohio's request for a System Improvement Charge; its implication is simply excessive and completely unjustifiable. We would embrace the opportunity to testify at a public hearing, when and if such a hearing takes place. Should the Commission have any questions relative to the content of this letter, please contact our office. Thank you for your consideration of this letter of opposition.

Respectfully submitted,

ASHTABULA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

PEGGY A. CARLO
President

DANIEL R. CLAYPOOL
Commissioner

CASEY R. KOZLOWSKI
Commissioner

Copy: Honorable John R. Kasich, Governor
Tony Mancari, Aqua Ohio
Douglas Starkey, City of Geneva
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