

## ***CITY OF PHILADELPHIA WATER DEPARTMENT***

### **EMERGENCY REGULATIONS ADDRESSING REVIEW OF PERMIT APPLICATION MATERIALS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS DURING THE COVID-19 EVENT**

On March 16, 2020 the Mayor and Health Commissioner issued an Emergency Order Temporarily Prohibiting Operation of Non-Essential Businesses to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 (“Emergency Order”). The Philadelphia Water Department (“Department”) has closed its offices to the public and to all employees not named essential by the commissioner or his designee(s).

The Department, by law and/or regulation, issues certain permits and approvals requiring the review of its units, committees, and/or staffs. The Emergency Order closures will affect the review of (1) new or pending applications; and (2) documents previously submitted or intended to be submitted to the Department.

Because certain provisions of law and/or regulations provide for “deemed approval” based on the inaction of the approving department or agency after submission of certain applications and/or other documents for review, the Department hereby promulgates the following emergency regulations:

Affected Review Period. “Affected Review Period” means the period from March 18, 2020 through sixty (60) days after the termination of the Emergency Order, as it may be extended.

The review period for all applications, plans, materials, or other documents submitted to the Department, its units, committees, and staffs which are currently pending shall be suspended, effective for the duration of the Affected Review Period.

Inaction of the Department, its units, committees, and staffs upon any applications, plans, materials, or other documents during the Affected Review Period will not constitute a deemed approval or deemed denial of any such applications, plans, materials or documents subject to review.

Pursuant to the Mayor's March 11, 2020 Declaration of Extraordinary Circumstance that allows regulations related to addressing the pandemic to become effective immediately upon transmission to the Department of Records, this emergency regulation shall become effective as of March 20, 2020.

**The City of Philadelphia,**  
by and through the **Water Department**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Randy E. Hayman, Commissioner

Date Signed: March 20, 2020