MAYOR SEAN EARLEN

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

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Township Administrator

Brandon E. Umba

CFO Robin Sarlo

Township ClerkDebra Shaw-Blemings

November 22nd, 2016

Mount Holly Municipal Utilities Authority 1 Park Drive P.O. Box 486 Mount Holly, NJ 08060 Attn: Jules Thiessen, Chairman

Dear Chairman Thiessen,



I am following up on a letter that I wrote to you on July 1st, 2016, wherein I discussed the proposed connection fee increases for all rate-payers to the Mount Holly Municipal Utilities Authority. In addition, I remained concerned with the different quarterly fees charged by the MUA to your ratepayers who live inside or outside the Township of Mount Holly, with the financial benefits of a lower host community rate being levied only on those who live within Mount Holly despite the Authority's reliance on lands and facilities in Lumberton to allow the system to function in accordance with NJDEP standards and regulations. Needless to say, on behalf of the residents and ratepayers in Lumberton Township we are extremely disappointed that my call for assistance has to date fallen on deaf ears at the Authority.

As you are aware, the MUA benefits from having two (2) wastewater treatment facilities, one located in Mount Holly Township and the other in Lumberton Township. That being said my colleagues on the Lumberton Township Committee and I feel strongly that our residents should benefit from the lower rates enjoyed by those who live within the Township of Mount Holly, since both townships serve as host communities for the MUA. The fact that the MUA operates on tax exempt land in both municipalities, should equate to both townships receiving equal rate benefits. Similarly, as co-host municipalities, both of our Township's governing bodies should have equal representation on the MUA's Board of Commissioners. Currently, Mount Holly Township has representation from two of its governing body members on the MUA Board. Those members have authority over rates being levied on our Township's residents, as well as input on what improvements are made to the Lumberton facility, which ultimately impacts our community. This unequal representation on the MUA Board is very concerning to my colleagues and me, which is why I am compelled to address it to you in this follow up letter.

The Lumberton Township Committee again requests the Mount Holly MUA Board of Commissioners to consider the concerns raised in this letter and to aggressively support the mutual interest of Lumberton as a co-host municipality. If Lumberton Township is to host one of the two (2) wastewater treatment facilities owned and operated by the MUA, then Lumberton Township should benefit from equal representation on its Board as well as the reduced host community rates enjoyed by the residents of Mount Holly. My colleagues and I look forward to your response and thank you for hearing our concerns. Please feel free to reach out to Brandon E. Umba, our Township Administrator with any questions or concerns at 609-267-3217 ext. 130 or by email at bumba@lumbertontwp.com.

Sincerely

Sean Earlen Mayor