

# Senator Yudichak Announces over \$19.8 million in PENNVEST Low Interest Financing for Hazleton City Authority

Posted on Jan 19, 2022

**Nanticoke, January 14, 2021** – State Senator John Yudichak (I – Luzerne/Carbon) announced today that the Hazleton City Authority (HCA) will be receiving \$19,835,000 in PENNVEST low interest financing for significant upgrades to their existing water distribution system along State Road 940 between the villages of Harleigh and Drifton located in Hazle Township in Luzerne County and in Mahanoy Township in Schuylkill County.

PENNVEST was founded on March 1, 1988 and serves the communities and citizens of Pennsylvania by funding sewer, stormwater and drinking water projects.

“The state’s investment through the PENNVEST low interest financing program for the Hazleton City Authority is vital to improving the water service infrastructure in these communities,” said Senator Yudichak. “With this funding, the Hazleton City Authority will work diligently to improve water pressure for public safety, such as fire protection, and water quality and reliability for residents will be significantly upgraded when the project is completed.”

The project includes the installation and replacement of approximately 34,000 feet of distribution system piping accompanied by all necessary appurtenances including valves, shut-offs, fire hydrants, and service laterals. Water mains will also be replaced. Interconnections will be made within the system, between existing pipe mains at various locations, to improve system pressure and fire protection capabilities. A new tie-in and two new pressure-regulating stations will be added. The improvements will enhance the Authority’s ability to operate and maintain their existing public water supply facilities.

“The PENNVEST low interest financing program is a great asset to our Pennsylvania communities. With this low interest funding, we’re able to complete this important infrastructure project without raising rates for our customers,” said Scot Burkhardt, HCA Director of Operations. “Also, with this funding we will be able to do this project the right way. It’s an outdated system that we’ve been patching and performing constant maintenance on for years. Once completed, our customers in these communities will have better water flow, pressure and reliability.”

“The Hazle Township supervisors along with the residents in these communities appreciate the state’s support as well as the support from the Hazleton City Authority for this project,” said Jim Montone, Chairman, Hazle Township Supervisors. “These upgrades are obviously much-needed infrastructure changes that will supply a more reliable water service and will also have the capability to supply water service to future larger customers, such as commercial businesses if needed.”

Since its inception, PENNVEST has continued its service to the communities and citizens of Pennsylvania by funding sewer, stormwater and drinking water projects throughout the Commonwealth. These projects not only contribute to improving Pennsylvania’s environment and the health of its people, they also provide opportunities for economic growth and jobs for Pennsylvania’s workers.

**Contact:**

Brad Hurley ([bhurley@pasen.gov](mailto:bhurley@pasen.gov))