

## **Key points to include in correspondence opposing the sale of the BCWSA sewer system to Aqua PA:**

### **Rate Increases**

- An average Aqua residential wastewater bill will go up 59%, from \$55.51 to \$88.18, a monthly increase of \$32.67 according to an Aqua spokesperson. (Reported The Philadelphia Inquirer, May 24, 2022.)
- “As a nonprofit, BCWSA does not have shareholders and does not pay dividends, rather we return money to our customers through reinvestment and stable rates that all of our customers enjoy as part of our economies of scale. This ensures you can enjoy the best services at the lowest possible cost.” (The Source- A BCWSA Publication, Spring 2018)

### **Local Control**

- Local government officials abdicate control over a vital public resource by privatizing the water and sewer system. (The Authorities, A PMAA Publication 2018)
- Ratepayers don't have access to decision-makers and board members of private investor-owned utilities. As members of the public ratepayers can speak directly to appointed board members and elected officials during public meetings.

### **Local Economy**

- Privatization typically leads to a loss of one in three water jobs. A survey of 10 privatization contracts found that water companies reduce the workforce by 34 percent on average after taking over a system. (The Authorities, A PMAA Publication 2018)