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Follow-Up Report: City of Camden's Management of Water Contract Much Improved since 2009

TRENTON – The City of Camden improved the operation and maintenance of its water services through its former contract with United Water LLC, according to a follow-up report issued today by the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC).

The City entered into the contract with United Water LLC (UW) in February 1999 for the operation, maintenance and repair of its water supply and wastewater collection systems. OSC's 2009 audit found examples of contract mismanagement that costs taxpayers millions. The City's contract with UW ended on January 31, 2016. At that time, American Water assumed full operations and maintenance of the City's water system.

Of the 23 recommendations contained in the 2009 audit report, 19 have been fully or partially implemented. Another two recommendations have not been implemented and the final two are not applicable because they are related to dispute resolution and there were no disputes between the City and UW.

"The operation and maintenance of the City of Camden's water services is significantly better than it was when we conducted our audit in 2009," said Philip James Degnan, Acting State Comptroller. "I am encouraged by the improvements the City has made, as well as its continued commitment to further progress."

All OSC reports, including the 2009 audit of Camden's water and wastewater collection system, are available on the office's website, www.nj.gov/comptroller.

The Office of the State Comptroller is an independent State agency that conducts audits and investigations of government agencies throughout New Jersey. The Office also reviews certain government contracts and works to detect and prevent Medicaid Fraud. The Office strives to enhance the efficiency and transparency of government and to ensure that public funds are spent effectively and efficiently.

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