

KENNETH J. LUCIANIN
Commissioner



MICHAEL DeFRANCISCI
Executive Director

GREGORY A. TRAMONTOZZI
*General Counsel
Acting Clerk*

600 Wilson Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07105
(973) 817-5700
(973) 817-5738- fax
www.nj.gov/pvsc

"Message from the Executive Director"

We continue to make steady progress on our Post-Sandy recovery efforts here at the plant.

As I've mentioned before, our primary goal is return the plant to normal operations as quickly as possible, while at the same time preparing for future severe weather events. There are countless men and women at PVSC who endeavor to make this a reality and we would not be where we are today without their commitment and dedication.

In addition to our own workforce, PVSC continues to work with FEMA on the completion and submission of Project Worksheets. To date, 43 project worksheets (PWs) have been identified for PVSC. 37 PWs are in the FEMA system. 23 of these have been obligated, which means that the money eligible to PVSC has or will be sent to the State of NJ for allocation at a future date.

Of note are the recently signed PWs by PVSC for the Emergency Sludge Removal (\$2.5M) and Sludge Thickeners, (2.5M). In the coming weeks, PWs for Grounds, the lab, the OEM Building, the Administration Building and the Witco Facility will be reviewed and signed.

Finally, I'm pleased to report that the Legislature recently passed a package of bills creating the Disaster Relief Emergency Program Fund. The Governor signed those bills into law on Wednesday, August 7. The fund would make available low-interest loans and grants to wastewater infrastructure facilities such as ours. The emergency loan program could fund upwards of a billion dollars in Superstorm Sandy repairs and disaster resiliency steps for the state's wastewater and drinking water facilities. This program will help facilities like PVSC avert the widespread disruption of these critical public services that occurred during Sandy.

We are optimistic that these bills will provide a new source of funds for critical infrastructure upgrades that PVSC can access for needed repairs.

This latest development is encouraging news and recognition that wastewater treatment plants need these additional funds to recover from Sandy's devastation, rebuild our infrastructure and reduce the risks of flood damage in the future as a result of severe storms. PVSC will be pursuing this program along with other funding sources.

We continue to make impressive progress in rebuilding and upgrading the facility. In the coming weeks and months, look to the PVSC for more important developments on the restoration of our plant.

Thank you,

Mike DeFrancisci, Executive Director