



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY
LANSING



PHILLIP D. ROOS
DIRECTOR

January 22, 2024

VIA EMAIL

The Honorable Marcus Muhammad
Mayor of Benton Harbor
200 East Wall Street
Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022

WSSN: 0600
County: Berrien

Dear Mayor Muhammad:

SUBJECT: Extension of Technical, Managerial, and Financial (TMF) Study Response

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us in Lansing. We feel the meeting was a positive step in addressing the TMF issues that the city of Benton Harbor (Benton Harbor) is experiencing with the operation of its waterworks.

You and your staff stated during the meeting that Benton Harbor would require additional time to respond to the requirement to notify the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) as to which of the three provided options it intends to pursue. The three options include:

- 1) determine a way to treat and distribute drinking water at a lower cost;
- 2) find additional sources of water system revenue; and/or
- 3) procure drinking water from another source at a lower cost.

In recognition of that request, EGLE is granting an extension until April 15, 2024, for Benton Harbor to choose an option.

We applaud Benton Harbor on the progress that has been made to this point and look forward to assisting you in further improving the state of drinking water for all residents.

Sincerely,

Eric J. Oswald, Director
Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division
517-284-6544

cc: Ellis Mitchell, City Manager, City of Benton Harbor
Elaine J. Venema, PE, F&V Engineering
Darold Harlan, F&V Operations
George L. Krisztian, EGLE
Mike Bolf, EGLE
Erin Russell, EGLE