

ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

December 6, 2018

Hon. John Brusco
Chair, Energy & Environment Committee
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin St, 4th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202

Re: Erie County Water Authority Hiring Practices

Dear Committee Chair Brusco,

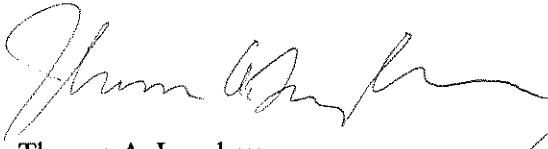
The commissioners of the Erie County Water Authority (“Authority”) had a discussion at the November 29, 2018 Board Meeting regarding current hiring practices. In listening to the meeting audio, it is concerning to learn that current procedures permit the majority of Authority hiring and promotional advancement to be authorized at administrative staff level as opposed to the Board of Commissioners.

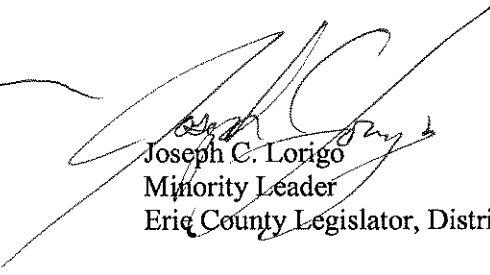
A significant portion of the operating budget for the Authority is spent on personnel, and while job postings are widely available, the actual decision to hire or gain promotional advancement for the vast majority of Authority positions isn’t public. This is the antithesis of an open process and transparency in government, as noted by Authority Commissioner E. Thomas Jones.

We are requesting a committee discussion at the earliest possible date with the Authority’s Board of Commissioners and relevant parties regarding current hiring practices and possible reforms.

Additionally, we are requesting the Authority provide us with electronic copies of all resumes submitted for all jobs posted since July 1, 2018. Documents should be transmitted to us at Thomas.Loughran@erie.gov, Joseph.Lorigo@erie.gov, and yourself as chair of the Energy & Environment Committee at John.Brusco@erie.gov in anticipation of this committee discussion.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,


Thomas A. Loughran
Erie County Legislator, District 5


Joseph C. Lorigo
Minority Leader
Erie County Legislator, District 10

cc: Secretary to the Authority, Erie County Water Authority