

Marcoon, Keith B.

From: Marcoon, Keith B.
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 1:46 PM
To: All OCUA Mail Recipients
Subject: Fifty Years Ago Today_OCUA 50th Anniversary

Dear Authority Employees,

Fifty years ago today, on July 8, 1970, the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders adopted a Resolution creating this Authority. In part, that Resolution stated the following: “There are in and about the County of Ocean waters, which are polluted and subject to pollution from causes arising within the County. The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County has ascertained that there is imperative need to relieve such waters from pollution and thereby reduce and ultimately abate the menace to the public health resulting from such pollution...” Soon after, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection characterized the County’s regional wastewater program as being “the biggest ever undertaken in New Jersey”. What began as a motion in a board room is now the impressive state-of-the-art regional wastewater conveyance, treatment, and disposal system serving over 620,000 persons across two counties. Since initiating physical operations, the Ocean County Utilities Authority staff have continuously maintained successful operations to this day.

The Authority’s history of accomplishments and success stories are wholly due to the exceptional efforts of its employees past and present. In celebration of this 50th Anniversary occasion, an in-person function was contemplated prior to the pandemic. However, due to the ongoing public health emergency, the plan was modified. **Therefore, in recognition of hard work, dedication, and perseverance against all challenges, Chairman John C. Parker wishes to extend one additional paid day off to all existing employees.** This day off shall be administered as a Floating Holiday and shall be utilized before December 31, 2020. Please enjoy your additional day off! Thank you for making a difference and contributing to the success of this Authority both in the past and through the current day against any and all challenges that arise.

In recognition of fifty years of serving the public health needs of our residents, a PowerPoint presentation was created to illustrate some of the Authority’s history of success. Please follow the link below to access the presentation via SharePoint: <http://sharepointprd/Anniversary/OCUA%2050th%20Anniversary.mp4>.

On a personal note, I am pleased to serve as the Executive Director for this momentous occasion. Prior to joining the Authority, I worked in different capacities as a consulting environmental and civil engineer in different regions throughout the country. I have visited numerous water, wastewater, and biosolids management facilities of all sizes. Upon joining the Authority in 2007, I immediately met fellow colleagues who exhibited a high level of exuberance and zest for working in an environment where their individual contributions accumulate with others resulting in tremendous accomplishments. What resonates with me personally is that I have and continue to meet current and retired employees who express how gratifying their existing or former career has been for them. I certainly agree this Authority is a uniquely satisfying place of employment where we are fortunate to be part of something greater – that is, fulfilling our mission of protecting the environment and thereby promoting ecological health, a robust economy, and finally, a high quality of life for our citizens.

I encourage you to continue this history of success, to contribute in your own way, and to inspire others by sharing your positive experiences and knowledge. By doing so, I am confident we can all help establish the next

generation of Authority employees who will continue to make a difference in the years to come. Thank you very much.

-Keith



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