

## **Public Comment and Response Document for Environmental Assessment Approval of Wastewater and Drinking Water Projects Being Considered for PENNVEST Funding**

The Notice of “Environmental Assessment Approval for PENNVEST Funding Consideration Nov/Dec2017” was published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin from November 25, 2017, through December 26, 2017. This notification can be found by visiting:

<http://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/Display/pabull?file=/secure/pabulletin/data/vol47/47-47/1954.html>.

The following comment was received during the comment period:

Comment from: James Dietz of Mars, PA

Comment Date: 11/25/2017

Comment: Why doesn't Keystone Protein Company pay for its own industrial water treatment or install a pretreatment plant to lower the POTW's investment? If Keystone Protein Company is owned by Keystone Foods of West Chester, PA that company is owned by Marfrig Global Foods, a multinational company that should have its own access to investment capital. If there is a public partnership agreement associated with this project then the Pennvest Funding Consideration request webpage should have a link to it.

Also, please note the link to the above Citizens Guide to DEP Regulations does not lead anywhere.

Response: Keystone Protein would be paying for the improvements through loan repayments, with the principal and interest payments augmenting funding available for other clean water projects in the Commonwealth. The idea with lower interest rates is to help the facilities come into compliance sooner. In the case of industrial/commercial recipients, part of the loan is an incentive to stay in the geographic area, stimulating economic development opportunities, private investment and job retention/creation – while addressing water quality issues.