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## "Message from the Executive Director"

At PVSC, we have always taken great pride in our bi-furcated mission that impacts public health, as well as the environment. In addition to the conveyance and treatment of wastewaters, PVSC is also responsible for pollution abatement for the portion of the Passaic River within its service area. In the most heavily industrialized service area of northern New Jersey, we have a tremendous responsibility for protecting and preserving the shoreline along the Passaic River from the Great Falls in Paterson to Newark Bay on the Atlantic Ocean.

Our commitment to achieving this particular mission is reflected in the many partnerships we have with federal, state, and local agencies. However, as we embrace the New Year and focus on priorities for 2014, I would like to highlight two important new partnerships with academe that will enable us to better leverage our resources for the good of the environment:

Earlier this year, the PVSC forged a partnership with the Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program to identify and address water quality issues with PVSC's service area. In particular, PVSC has been collaborating with Rutgers to create a Green Infrastructure Program – the first training workshop to commence on Friday, January 31st here at the plant.

These free training workshops will provide an opportunity for community leaders to learn how to implement cost effective green infrastructure strategies to:

- Minimize flooding by intercepting storm water runoff at the source;
- Comply with regulatory statutes by reducing combined sewer overflows;
- Protect water quality; and
- Save communities money by managing inflow and infiltration.

In addition to the workshops, PVSC will pilot the program in several communities to showcase how rain gardens, rain collection systems and other "green" technologies can reduce flooding and other hazards.

Our second partnership is with the Passaic River Institute (PRI), housed at Montclair State University. We are exploring several ideas to better monitor and improve the conditions of the River. Recently, we partnered on a grant proposal to the USEPA, which would create the "Urban River Resident Volunteer Working Group – Passaic River, NJ Watershed."

To accomplish the goals of the proposed project, the PVSC will work with PRI for a two-year period to begin on or about July 1, 2014, for the expressed purpose of organizing local environmental organizations and community groups to establish a Passaic River Working Group .

KENNETH J. LUCIANIN  
*Commissioner*



MICHAEL DeFRANCISCI  
*Executive Director*

GREGORY A. TRAMONTOZZI  
*General Counsel  
Acting Clerk*

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I'm extremely excited about both of these partnerships.

As one of the nation's largest wastewater treatment plants, PVSC has an important role to play in helping to advance partnership opportunities in the communities where we work, live and do business. Since its early beginnings, PVSC has been striving to improve local water quality in accordance with federal and state water quality legislation. Now, with these knowledgeable and energetic partners, we can have a greater impact on the environmental health and security of our residents in the 48 municipalities within the Passaic Valley Service District.

Particularly in today's volatile economic environment, it's more important than ever that all stakeholders work together to expand our opportunities and create a more sustainable environment. With the support of our employees and in alliance with our many partners, I am optimistic that PVSC will continue to make positive and lasting contributions to society.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike DeFrancisci".

Mike DeFrancisci, Executive Director