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## **Thomas J. Powell Re-Appointed to Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners**

**NEWARK** – Thomas J. Powell was sworn-in to his third term on the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (PVSC) at the PVSC monthly meeting held in Newark on January 15. Governor Jon Corzine nominated Mr. Powell to his third 5-year term on PVSC.

Mr. Powell's re- appointment to PVSC was confirmed by the New Jersey State Senate this month. He was appointed to his first term on PVSC in 1998 by former Governor Christie Whitman and was elected Chairman of PVSC by his colleagues in December of 2005, a position he still holds.

While serving on the PVSC, Mr. Powell has helped the agency update equipment, institute energy efficiencies, implement innovative new treatment processes and create new programs like the Passaic River/Newark Bay Restoration Program, Education Outreach Program, Liquid Waste Acceptance Unit and the beneficial re-use of sludge to end ocean dumping.

Since Mr. Powell joined the Commissioners, PVSC has won the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's prestigious *Operations & Maintenance Excellence Award* as well as seven *Gold Awards* from the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies for perfect annual permit compliance.

A Harrison resident, Mr. Powell is a member of the Harrison Redevelopment Agency, as well as a stakeholder on the Hudson County Economic Development Corporation's Brownfield Pilot Program. A retired Vice-President of National Westminster Bank, Mr. Powell and his wife Margaret have three children and five grandchildren.

PVSC is the largest wastewater treatment facility in New Jersey and the 5<sup>th</sup> largest facility of its type in the nation. It treats up to 330 million gallons of wastewater every day – nearly 25% of all the wastewater generated in New Jersey – servicing over 1.5 million residents in 48 communities in Bergen, Hudson, Essex and Passaic counties.