

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 5, 2018 **Contact:** Matt Davison matt@martingroupmarketing.com (716) 604-7772

Niagara Falls Water Board Approves Amendment to Consent Order with NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

Updated agreement terms will facilitate roughly \$27 million in much-needed wastewater infrastructure improvements

Niagara Falls, NY – Today the Niagara Falls Water Board (NFWB) announced that it has executed an amendment to its existing December 2017 Consent Order agreement with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), formalizing a commitment to carry out roughly \$27 million in infrastructure improvements at its wastewater treatment facility in Niagara Falls, NY. Prior to and as a condition to signing the amendment, both New York State and the NFWB each agreed to commit up to \$13.5 million to overall enhancement efforts across nine separate priority project areas. In addition, New York State also committed to contribute an \$6.5 million in additional funds for future improvements at NFWB facilities yet to be determined, bringing the total New York State contribution to \$20 million.

"The Niagara Falls Water Board is very excited to work the DEC on this important development. Our organization has actively complied with all aspects of the original Consent Order and has worked closely with the DEC to identify ways to improve Niagara Falls' 40-year-old wastewater system as we move into the future," said Daniel T. O'Callaghan, NFWB Chairman. "This funding news is very exciting for our community and it shows how serious both the NFWB and the DEC are regarding the need to enhance our wastewater treatment plant infrastructure, technology, and above all—performance. We would of course like to thank Governor Cuomo, our staff, the NFWB's engineering and environmental consultants, and the DEC team members who have been collaborating with us over the last year to identify these project opportunities and funding sources."

The NFWB remains wholly committed to proper wastewater treatment and the distribution of the highest-quality drinking water consistent with public health laws and regulations, as well as the public enjoyment of natural resources, the protection of fish and wildlife, the economic development of the City of Niagara Falls and the general well-being of the surrounding area.

To learn more about the NYS DEC Consent Order, visit: <u>https://nfwb.org/app/uploads/2018/04/NFWB-Consent-Order-Final_2018.pdf</u>

To review the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Gorge Pumping Station Rehabilitation engineering report, visit: <u>https://nfwb.org/app/uploads/2018/08/GHD-Engineering-Report_07-24-2018.pdf</u>

To review the NFWB's Consent Order Q1 progress report, visit: <u>https://nfwb.org/app/uploads/2018/05/NFWB-Q1-2018-Progress-Report-4-30-18-sent-4-30-18.pdf</u>

To review the NFWB's Consent Order Q2 progress report, visit: https://nfwb.org/app/uploads/2018/08/NFWB-Q2-2018-Progress-Report-7-25-18.pdf To review the NFWB's Consent Order Q3 progress report, visit: https://nfwb.org/app/uploads/2018/08/NFWB-Q3-2018-Progress-Report-10-31-18.pdf

For more information on the NFWB, go to: <u>www.NFWB.org</u>.

###