



LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS
BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED
IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Board of Directors
Dutchess County Water & Wastewater Authority
1 Lagrange Avenue
Poughkeepsie, New York 12603

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States ("*Government Auditing Standards*"), the financial statements of the Dutchess County Water & Wastewater Authority, a component unit of Dutchess County, New York, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Dutchess County Water & Wastewater Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 28, 2024.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Dutchess County Water & Wastewater Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Dutchess County Water & Wastewater Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Dutchess County Water & Wastewater Authority's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

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Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Dutchess County Water & Wastewater Authority's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as item 2023-001.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Authority's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

RBT CPAs, LLP

Newburgh, New York
March 28, 2024