The Borough, along with every other separate sewer municipality served by ALCOSAN, is under a Consent Decree ("ACO") dated December 3, 2015. This is effectively an agreement among ALCOSAN, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and the Allegheny County Health Department. This ACO, based on the Federal Clean Water Act, is intended to reduce the amount of storm water entering the sanitary sewerage system and thus prevent overflows of sewage from sanitary sewers into the waterways of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. To begin to meet its obligations under the ACO, the Borough analyzed its sanitary sewer system and began corrective measures to prevent rainwater from entering the sanitary sewer system. Unfortunately, because of the age and type of construction of the original sewer pipe, groundwater continues to enter the sewer system and the sanitary system continues to overflow into the streams and ultimately the rivers.

Consequently, the Borough must repair and/or replace the majority of the existing sanitary sewer system. The existing sanitary sewer system is between 45 and 100 years old and made primarily of clay pipe with some cast iron and concrete pipe. The clay pipe is broken and deteriorated and the cast iron and concrete pipe is undersized for current flow conditions. Hundreds of manholes mostly made from bricks will also be repaired or replaced during this major project. This project involves repairs to over 2.6 miles of sewer pipe in the upper reaches of the system and 2.5 miles of sewer main upsizing. The cost of these repairs will be approximately $10.7 million. The Borough's plan and budget have been submitted to the Allegheny County Health Department and PA DEP and meet the requirements of the Federal CleanWater Act.

The Borough plan must provide capacity to meet or exceed historic usage, provide for projected future usage, and charge proportional to usage. The approved Borough plan is based on actual flow and usage and provides capacity and allocates costs based on that usage.