

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Pottstown Borough Authority

April 14, 2022

The following summarizes our recent activities performed on behalf of the Pottstown Borough Authority (Authority) from March 11, 2022 through April 14, 2022:

Capital Projects

Water Treatment Plant Improvements – Air Scour System (R007010.0433)

No significant updates since the March 2022 Report. Equipment has been received and Pottstown Borough Staff is working on the Project. HRG is currently assisted with some design adaptations to aid in installation. Once ready, HRG and Roberts Filter will provide start-up services to place each filter back into service.

LT2 Enhanced Surface Water Rule: UV Installation Project

No significant updates since the March 2022 Report. Contracts were awarded to Blooming Glenn (\$108,460) for General Construction (Contract WTP-21-1) and A.N. Lynch (\$108,000) for Electrical Construction (Contract WTP-21-2). The preconstruction meeting occurred on January 27th at 11:30 am.

Since the preconstruction meeting, revised control panel locations have been reviewed during a site visit and with Pottstown Staff. The final panel locations are still to be finalized.

Coordination with the contractors following the preconstruction meeting included owner procured equipment delivery dates. Both Evoqua and SWF deliveries are anticipated in May. Exact delivery dates are unknown and are being coordinated. A job conference has been scheduled for April 20th to review the contractor's anticipated construction schedules ahead of the deliveries.

PADEP sent the revisions to the COA in February 2022 extending the deadline of the LT2 CO&A scheduled until November 2022. The revisions included a date of November 3, 2022 for construction completion and December 7, 2022 for the amended operation permit to incorporate the UV treatment for Cryptosporidium.

2021 Water and Sewer Main Replacement Project

The Contractor (Joao & Bradley Construction Co.) has completed all punch list items including installation of the inflow dishes as well as providing payment for the outstanding Invoice from the Borough. HRG has issued Final Contract Closeout Documents to the Contractor and provided copies of the Final Closeout Document package to the Pottstown Public Works and Authority Solicitor. A digital copy and two (2) hard copies of the Record Drawings were also provided to Public Works.

Miscellaneous Projects

2023 to 2033 Capital Improvements Plan (Water and Sewer)

There are no further updates since the January 2022 Engineer's Report. HRG has completed and submitted a draft 10-Year Capital Improvements Plan (2023 to 2033) for the Authority's water and sewer system. HRG will make improvements to the plan based on the comments discussed in the Capital Improvements Meeting held on January 11, 2022.

WTP NPDES Permit Renewal Application

HRG continues work on the NPDES Permit Renewal Application (Permit No. PA0052647) for the Pottstown Water Treatment Plant (due on June 6, 2022). HRG continues to coordinate with Plant Staff to obtain the information needed for the application as well as testing for the priority pollutants required.

Water Valve Exercising Program

In consultation with Public Works, HRG has continued to liaise with Wachs to address various project-specific items, data quality, and general approaches to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of professional services provided under Contract No. VP-1. On behalf of Public Works, HRG has coordinated the Authority's acceptance criteria for GPS precision (2-ft.) with Wachs, which resulted in GPS reshoots at no cost to the Authority. Per the Authority's request, HRG worked with Wachs to correct and revise Invoice No. 2 for the Authority's action.

Wachs provided additional preliminary deliverables for Year 2 Valve Assessment (2022) work (completed between March 8 and March 24, 2022) on March 29, 2022. HRG provided Public Works with the March 29, 2022 additional preliminary deliverable submission for Year 2 Valve Assessment (2022) work, with any subsequent data review, evaluation, or action contingent upon the Authority's direction. The March 29, 2022 additional preliminary deliverable submission for Year 2 Valve Assessment (2022) work indicates that a total of 509 valves have been targeted for assessment as of March 24, 2022.

Per the Authority's direction, HRG will continue to ensure that all work under Contract No. VP-1 is conducted in conformance with the Scope of Work and intent of the executed Agreement. HRG has informed Wachs that future year efforts are to be completed only during the warmer months (April to October) to minimize cold-weather related field issues.

UPT Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan Update for Acquisition of UPT Sewage Facilities by PAWC

There are no further updates since the March 2022 Engineer's Report. HRG and the Solicitor previously reviewed Upper Pottsgrove Township's Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan Update for Acquisition of Upper Pottsgrove Township Sewage Facilities by Pennsylvania American Water Company (dated July 2021) as well as the related Settlement Agreement and Release and the Assignment and Assumption with Support Agreement documents. Comments were provided on behalf of the Authority to the UPT Engineer (on December 21, 2021 and January 7, 2022) relative to review of all associated information.

Industrial Highway Meter Review

As noted in the March 2022 Engineer's Report, Lower Pottsgrove Township has inquired about the ability to remove the Industrial Highway meter (LPT4) and bill Lower Pottsgrove Township based upon water usage from each of the facilities (Hotel and KinderCare) that contribute flow to the meter. The LPT4 meter has not been operational since January 4, 2022, and historical flow correlations are currently being used for billing.

HRG previously performed a review of the historical water billing records at both facilities (Hotel and KinderCare) as well as the wastewater meter flow records for the Industrial Highway meter (LPT4) over the past five years that the meter was operational. The historical quarterly water records have been lower than the wastewater flows during every year of the analysis. From 2016 until 2018, the average monthly water usage was 262,222 gallons, and the average monthly wastewater flow was 320,312 gallons. From 2020 to 2021, the average monthly water usage was 92,623 gallons, and the average monthly wastewater flow was 178,211 gallons. While the flows are currently relatively low, the historical data suggest the usage may be lower due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and that the wastewater flows may increase to Pre-2020 levels.

Since at least 2017, there have been no flow calibration reports included in Lower Pottsgrove Township's Chapter 94 Reports or provided to BCM or HRG. HRG previously performed a site visit to verify the Industrial Highway meter pit location (and connections to the meters) and observed no blockages in the meter pit.

Lower Pottsgrove and their Engineer requested a site visit meeting to further discuss this matter with HRG. This meeting is tentatively scheduled to be conducted during the week of April 18 or April 25. At the time of this Report, HRG's stance remains the same, to maintain the use of a meter at this site.

2021 Chapter 94 Report

The 2021 Chapter 94 Report was completed and submitted to PADEP by the March 31, 2022 deadline. An electronic copy was provided to WWTP Staff.

Funding Opportunities

Lead Line Replacement Initiative

The previously proposed 180-day extension to the settlement date stipulated in PENNVEST's October 21, 2021 funding offer was approved by PENNVEST resulting in a revised settlement date of January 19, 2023, as opposed to July 23, 2022. As we originally discussed with PENNVEST (Rebecca Hayden - Region IV Project Specialist) our intent was to obtain an alternative funding source in order to reduce or alleviate the loan amount (~\$2,000,000.00). Contrary to our initial discussions with PENNVEST, Brion Johnson (PENNVEST Deputy Executive Director) and Rebecca informed us, after the extension was granted, that any additional grant dollars obtained would reduce the grant amount (~3,000,000) and loan amount proportionally, in the same fashion as other contributions. For example if \$1,000,000 in external grant dollars was awarded, the PENNVEST grant would be reduced to ~\$2,500,000 and the loan would be reduced to ~\$1,500,000.00. It appears that they are adamant about administering a loan for this program regardless of any supplemental funding. With PENNVEST's stance, the options for avoiding any debt through this program are limited. If there is no loan amount that the Authority would be comfortable taking on, we do not feel that this should be pursued any further.

There are anticipated opportunities through CFA that may be available before the end of the year (i.e. Small Water and Sewer Program and H2O Grant programs), however these programs all have contribution requirements. Also, the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) program through the County is available and could be used for this initiative. Applications are due on April 30, 2022. If this is something that the Authority would like to pursue, HRG can complete and submit the County ARPA Application on behalf of the Authority for a lump sum fee of \$1,500.00.

Land Development

Hanover Square Commercial Development

There are no further updates since the March 2022 Engineer's Report. Approval of the Contractor's formal bond release request (dated July 27, 2021) is contingent upon acceptance of the required sanitary manhole correction work by Public Works (tentatively scheduled for completion by the Contractor during Spring 2022).

Lower Pottsgrove Township Municipal Complex Development

There are no further updates since the March 2022 Engineer's Report. HRG has conducted a total of three (3) water/sewer capacity reviews (final letter issuance date of January 11, 2021); a total of two (2) land development reviews for the proposed water system (final letter issuance date of December 2, 2021); and previously performed a financial security review for the water system improvements to recommend an amount for financial security for facilities to be dedicated to the Authority (letter issuance date of February 3, 2022). There are no further action items required for this land development project.

243 Shoemaker Road (Specialty Chemical Systems, Inc.) Development

There are no further updates since the March 2022 Engineer's Report. It is our understanding that this land development project is still on-hold.

759 Sheridan Street (Sheridan Street Subdivision) Development

There are no further updates since the March 2022 Engineer's Report. The Design Engineer previously provided HRG with the PADEP Sewage Facilities Planning Module Exemption Letter, dated September 30, 2021. A Will Serve Letter was previously prepared for the project. There are no further action items required for this land development project.

14 Robinson Street (PermaBond, LLC) Development

There are no further updates since the March 2022 Engineer's Report. HRG has performed a total of four (4) land development reviews for the proposed fire water service (final letter issuance date of February 14, 2022) and successfully coordinated with the Design Engineer, the Applicant's Architect, the Fire System Designer, and Public Works to ensure that final plan revisions were made in conformance with the mutually agreed-upon end design criteria for the 2-stanchion support system. There are no further action items required for this land development project.

451 Keystone Boulevard (Pottstown Sustainable Energy Plant) Development

There are no further updates since the March 2022 Engineer's Report. The approved O&M Agreement was partially executed by Pottstown Sustainable Energy Plant in December 2021 and has been sent to the Authority Solicitor for completion and execution.

200 Shoemaker Road (Chipotle) Development

To-date, HRG has performed one (1) land development review for the proposed water and sewer systems (letter issuance date of December 10, 2021). HRG has also provided technical assistance to the Design Engineer for the pending land development resubmission (not yet received). The Design Engineer provided HRG with the PADEP Sewage Facilities Planning Module Exemption Letter, dated March 22, 2022.

860 Beech Street (Hill School Turf Field) Development

To-date, HRG has performed one (1) land development review for the proposed water and sewer systems (letter issuance date of March 14, 2022). HRG is awaiting the land development resubmission for further review and comment.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this report or any other items.

Respectfully Submitted,

HERBERT, ROWLAND & GRUBIC, INC.



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