



ONEIDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER QUALITY AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL  
P.O. Box 442, Utica, New York 13503-0442  
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January 7, 1997

Mr. James F. Luz, P.E.  
Regional Engineer  
Region 6-Utica  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
207 Genesee Street  
Utica, New York 13501-2885

Re: Sauquoit Creek Pumping Station and Force Main

Dear Mr. Luz:

I thought it important to update you as to the progress being made in addressing the wet weather flow problems at the Sauquoit Creek Pumping Station. Based on your letter of August 13, 1996 and our meeting of September 18th, preliminary work has been progressing. However, at this point in time, I am unable to give you a firm schedule as requested in your letter. I need to gather more information before I can commit to a schedule.

In our meeting, we discussed the problem and what methods could be utilized to implement a solution to it. The following are conclusions I drew from our meeting. If you have a different viewpoint, I need to know as soon as possible so I can alter the approach this Department is taking with respect to the problems at the pumping station.

1. There is a serious problem with excessive high weather flows at the Sauquoit Creek Pumping Station. It is most probably due to infiltration since there are no known cross connections between the storm and sanitary sewers that feed the pumping station.
2. The problem needs to be addressed by the Sewer District Member Municipalities. The Department of Water Quality and Water Pollution Control needs to be an active participant in any solution given its permit responsibilities at the Sauquoit Creek Pumping Station.

3. There is no real handle on where the excess flows are coming from. However, money should be spent on solving the problem rather than studying it in minute detail.

Mr. James F. Luz, P.E.  
January 7, 1997  
Page 3 of 3

These meetings have been extremely positive. The parties have been very receptive to the conceptual approach outlined in this letter. I anticipate setting up a meeting with the affected villages in the near future to outline the conceptual plan and get their input. Once these meetings are complete, I plan to brief the County Executive on the matter and seek his approval to proceed.

I would anticipate that this year would be spent finalizing the project plan and getting the municipalities involved to commit to the plan. Once this is done, I would expect the rest of the year would be spent gathering flow data and doing an initial round of system evaluations. Thus, municipalities could budget for first year repairs in 1998. Even this schedule could be aggressive given the amount of work that needs to be completed.

With the passage of the Bond Act, I am curious as to the availability of funds for this project. I know that low interest loans are available through EFC. However, grant money may be more appealing to the municipalities who would have to participate in the project. I would appreciate any insight you could give me with regard to grant money potentially available for this project through the Bond Act.

I hope this gives you a better understanding as to the progress being made to address the problem. I will keep you apprised as to the progress being made. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Steven P. Devan, P.E.  
Commissioner

cc: Ralph J. Eannace, Jr., County Executive  
Bill Barry, Supervisor, Town of Whitestown  
John Kazanjian, Supervisor, Town of New Hartford  
Roger Cleveland, Town Engineer, Town of New Hartford  
Adele Fadel, Supervisor, Town of Paris  
William J. Keiser, III, Mayor, Village of New Hartford  
Raymond Daviau, Jr., Mayor, Village of Whitesboro  
Bruno Petruccione, Mayor, Village of Yorkville  
Donald Rothdiener, Mayor, Village of Oriskany  
Michael Dubiel, Mayor, Village of New York Mills  
Nancy Sheppard, Mayor, Village of Clayville