

Status of Town/Village Backup Water Supply Project
For Town Board Meeting
September 9, 2015

NYC is planning to take the Catskill Aqueduct out of service for repairs for an extended period of time on multiple occasions.

Based on recommendations in a September 2014 report funded by DEP, DEP intends to provide funding in two phases—in the first phase for environmental, engineering and design studies and, in the second phase, for construction of whatever the Town, the Village and DEP agree should be built.

DEP funding will address two areas:

- (i) in the Village, development of a water demand management program for all customers reliant on the Village system, and improvement of the Village's existing reservoir system; and
- (ii) in the Town, development of certain water wells and related infrastructure that will be used, in part, as an alternate water source during periods of the DEP's planned shutdowns of the Catskill Aqueduct.

To repeat, the agreements with DEP will be in two phases:

- (i) The first phase is funding for environmental, engineering and design studies of the backup water supply system for the Town and Village.
- (ii) The second phase, which we have not gotten to yet, will be funding for construction of whatever the Town, the Village and DEP agree should be built.

As part of the first phase, the Town has been notified by letter dated August 31, that it will be receiving \$1,564,700 pursuant to a funding contract with the Town with an Effective Date of August 21, 2015.

This money is to be used for the design and evaluation of the proposed Plains Road and Paradies Lane Wellsite Systems, including the environmental review of the proposed systems. Under the agreement, the environmental review must be completed by December 11, 2015.

The studies are themselves exempt from SEQRA under 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(21), which exempts from review concurrent environmental, engineering and feasibility studies and preliminary planning and budgetary processes that do not commit the Town or Village to engage in or approve construction.

The Town Board is doing three things tonight:

1. Acknowledging receipt from DEP of the notice that the funding contract has been registered and is now effective;
2. Establishing intent to serve as lead agency in the environmental review of the possible second phase, which would be the construction and funding of the backup water supply system; and
3. Hiring Dave Clouser to do the engineering, environmental review and other studies covered by the funding contract we just received.

Nothing done tonight is committing the Town or the Village to undertake construction of any particular part of a backup water supply system. All we are doing tonight is moving forward in the planning process with the funds we have been awarded by DEP.