



west virginia department of environmental protection

Division of Water and Waste Management
601 57th Street, SE
Charleston, WV 25304
Phone: 304-926-0495 / Fax: 304-926-0463

Harold D. Ward, Cabinet Secretary
dep.wv.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Marie Prezioso, Chair

From: Katheryn Emery, P.E., Program Manager
Sewer Technical Review Committee

Date: October 16, 2025

Subject: Greater Harrison PSD
IJDC No. 2025S-2709
River Crossing Replacement

1. This committee has reviewed the preliminary application and engineering report submitted for the above referenced project in accordance with Chapter 31, Article 15A. It has been determined that the proposed project is:
 - a. ☒ Consistent with the intent of the Infrastructure and Jobs Development Act and is the most cost-effective, environmentally sound alternative for solving the wastewater needs in this area.
 - b. ☐ Not consistent with the Act and may not be the most cost effective, environmentally sound alternative for solving the wastewater needs in this area.
 - c. ☐ Same as (a) above except that certain issues need to be addressed prior to design and construction as the attached comments indicate.
2. Our recommendation is that:
 - a. ☒ The Funding Committee needs to review the proposed sources of funding to determine the best mix of grant and/or loan funds in accordance with applicable guidelines.
 - b. ☐ The Funding Committee should recommend that the Council approve the proposed project and its funding plan.

- c. ____ The Funding Committee does not need to review the funding assumptions on this project. This project will need to be tabled to give time for the PSC to complete the review.
- d. ____ This project should be referred to the Consolidation Committee.

3. Other remarks:

This project will replace the inverted siphon river crossing of the West Fork River near WV 270. Several dams were removed by the US Fish and Wildlife and this has decreased the water level of the river and therefore exposed the crossing. This project will address the safety issue with this crossing being damaged and is located upstream of the drinking water plant.

The Total Engineering Fees appear to be above the ASCE curve and will need a variance.

The total cost for this project is \$1,250,000.00 and the PSD intends to pursue a \$625,000 IJDC Grant, \$500,000 Congressionally Directed Spending Grant and a \$125,000 Governor's Appropriation Grant (committed).

Preliminary Project Ratings:

Public Health Benefits: 5
Compliance with Standards: 5



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Arvin Singh, EdD, MBA, MS, FACHE
Secretary of Health

Jason R. Frame
OEHS Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Meredith J. Vance, Director
Environmental Engineering Division

FROM: Patrick Murphy, P.E. 
Environmental Engineering Division

DATE: October 6, 2025

SUBJECT: Greater Harrison PSD
IJDC Application – 2025S-2709
River Crossing Replacement
Harrison County

Recommendation: We have reviewed this preliminary application and recommend that it be forwarded to the Funding Committee for review.

Project Scope: This project proposes constructing a conventional pump station on the northern side of the West Fork River, installing a new force main river crossing, and decommissioning the existing siphon structure.

The total project cost is **\$1,250,000.00**

Need for the Project: In 2016, the Highland Dam, West Milford Dam, and Two Lick Dam were removed from the West Fork River to encourage recreational activities such as kayaking and boating. The removal of the dams caused the water level to lower in certain areas. The Greater Harrison County Public Service District's sanitary sewer river crossing in West Milford became exposed with the lower water level. In addition, worsening bank erosion is further uncovering the crossing.

Concerns: No concerns were noted.



Permits: The followings permits and/or consultations may be expected for this project

- WV Bureau of Public Health Permit
- WV Department of Environmental Protection
- US Army Corps of Engineers



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Harold D. Ward, Cabinet Secretary
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Katheryn Emery, P.E., Program Manager, DWWM

FROM: Corey McComas, DWWM

DATE: October 14, 2025

SUBJECT: Greater Harrison PSD
IJDC No. 2025S-2709
River Crossing Replacement

RECOMMENDATION

The IJDC Application and Preliminary Engineering Report prepared by The Thrasher Group, for the above referenced project has been reviewed and is technically feasible.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Greater Harrison Public Service District (PSD) currently owns two wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) and collection systems. The PSD serves 3,212 customers in the West Milford, Good Hope, Lost Creek, Laurel Valley, Clarksburg, Country Club, Boothsville, and other areas throughout the county. The proposed project will flow to the 0.6 MGD West Milford WWTP, which discharges into the West Fork River.

The project will replace the inverted siphon river crossing of the West Fork River near WV 270. This will include the following: decommission/removal of siphon station and forcemain and install approximately 650 LF of 8"-6" DIP forcemain, approximately 100 LF of 8" PVC GSP, one (1) pump station, and all necessary appurtenances.

The proposed total cost for this project is \$1,250,000.00 and the PSD intends to pursue a \$625,000 IJDC Grant, \$500,000 Congressionally Directed Spending Grant and a \$125,000 Governor's Appropriation Grant (committed). The monthly rate for 3,400 gallons is \$86.05 (1.98% MHI).

NEED FOR PROJECT

The District's river crossings, a sewer force main and siphon line, have become exposed due to removal of several dams by the US Fish and Wildlife. The absence of these dams has decreased the water level of the river and therefore exposed the crossing. These lines are now unprotected from impacts or flood damage, which could cause breaks and discharges. Untreated sewer entering the river could cause harmful effects on the surrounding habitat and local population. These health impacts could be magnified if this untreated sewage enters the downstream water intake of a major drinking water provider, the Clarksburg Water Board.

A purpose for removal of the dams was to encourage recreational activities. The exposed crossings are now a dangerous obstruction and prevent the river from being easily navigable.

DEFICIENCIES/COMMENTS

- No official Documentation of Need provided. Pictures could have demonstrated the need. Also, a statement from Clarksburg Water Board or US Fish & Wildlife was not provided.
- Capital costs and projected worths were nearly identical for all alternatives. Alternative #1 was selected due to non-monetary factors, such as the lowest amount of disturbance.
- Using the Combined Application, the Total Engineering Fees appear to be above the ASCE curve.

Preliminary Project Ratings:

Public Health Benefits: 5

Compliance with Standards: 5

Public Service Commission of West Virginia

201 Brooks Street, P.O. Box 812
Charleston, West Virginia 25323

Phone: (304) 340-0300
Fax: (304) 340-0325



October 14, 2025

Ms. Kathy Emery, P. E.
Office of Water Resources
Department of Environmental Protection
601 57th St.
Charleston, West Virginia 25304

Re: Public Service Commission Staff Review Comments
Application No. 2025S-2709
Greater Harrison PSD – Sewer System Improvements
Infrastructure Preliminary Application

Dear Ms. Emery:

As requested, the Technical Staff of the Public Service Commission of West Virginia has completed its review of the above-referenced Infrastructure application. In light of Technical Staff's comments enclosed herewith, we are recommending the application be:

- ☒ Forwarded to the Funding Committee
☐ Forwarded to the Consolidation Committee
☐ Returned to the Applicant

Please advise if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Brandon Crace

Brandon Crace
Engineering Division

Enclosures

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF
TECHNICAL REVIEW**

DATE: October 14, 2025

PROJECT SPONSOR: GREATER HARRISON CO. PUBLIC SERVICE
DISTRICT - SEWER

PROJECT SUMMARY: Greater Harrison PSD is proposing to replace its existing
West Fork River sanitary sewer crossing.

PROPOSED FUNDING:	IJDC Grant	\$ 625,000
	Congressionally Directed	500,000
	Gov. Appropriation	<u>125,000</u>
	Total	\$1,250,000

CURRENT RATES:	\$78.95	3,400 gallons
	\$89.41	4,000 gallons

PROPOSED RATES:	\$86.05	3,400 gallons
	\$97.46	4,000 gallons

Application No. 2025S-2709

RECOMMENDATION: X Forward to the Funding Committee
 Forward to the Consolidation Committee
 Return to the Applicant

FINANCIAL: Dave Acord

1. Current rates (\$78.95 for 3,400 gallons) are above the rates attributable to 1.25% (\$54.31), 1.5% (\$65.17), and 1.75% (\$76.03) of the Median Household Income (MHI), but below 2% (\$86.89) of the MHI. Increasing current rates to 2% of the MHI would provide additional revenues of \$319,966.
2. Using Scenario 1, the preferred funding package consisting of an IJDC Grant of \$625,000, Congressionally Directed Funding of \$500,000, and Governor's Appropriation of \$125,000, proposed rates (\$86.05 for 3,400 gallons) will provide a cash flow surplus of \$195,348 and debt service coverage of 143.03%.

3. Using Scenario 2, alternate loan package of \$625,000 (in uncommitted funds) at 5% for 40 years (paid back over 38 years) and committed funds consisting of Congressionally Directed Funding of \$500,000 and Governor's Appropriation of \$125,000, proposed rates (\$86.91 for 3,400 gallons) will provide a cash flow surplus of \$189,855 and debt service coverage of 141.99%.

4. Notes to Comments:

A. Staff's detailed adjustments are listed on Attachment A for Scenario 1 (Preferred Funding Package) and Attachment B for Scenario 2 (Loan Package).

B. Staff prepared the attached Cash Flow Analysis utilizing information from the Annual Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024, and the Applicant's cash flows submitted with the application.

C. It should be noted that the Proposed rates (\$86.05 for 3,400 gallons) are effective upon substantial completion of a Sewer System Improvement Project or six months prior to the initiation of the debt service associated with the sewer system improvement project, whichever occurs first. These rates were adopted by Resolution of the District's Board and approval of the Harrison County Commission.

D. Senate Bill 234, effective June 12, 2015, required water and sewer utilities that are political subdivisions of the state to maintain a cash working capital reserve in an amount of no less than one-eighth (1/8) of actual annual operation and maintenance expenses. It should be noted that the cash flow provided by the project sponsor includes funding for the 1/8 cash working capital reserve. Staff accepted that amount in its analysis. However, this amount may be reviewed by the Commission in future filings in accordance with Public Service Commission General Order 183.11.

E. The Public Service District should carefully evaluate its revenue requirements before pursuing a rate increase in order to ensure that rates are sufficient to provide a reasonable surplus and meet coverage requirements. Staff notes that the District is a political subdivision of the state and it has at least 4,500 customers and annual gross revenues of \$3 million or more. Therefore, in accordance with Senate Bill 234, effective June 12, 2015, the Commission has no jurisdiction regarding

the District's rates pursuant to WV Code 24-2-4a and WV Code 16-13A-9. However, the Commission does have jurisdiction pursuant to WV Code 24-2-1 (b)(6) for the investigation and resolution of disputes involving political subdivisions of the state regarding inter-utility agreements, rates, fees and charges, service areas and contested utility combinations.

ENGINEERING: Jim Spurlock

1. Pursuant to House Bill 2742 passed in the 2025 Legislative Session this project will not require a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity from the PSC.
2. Scope: Greater Harrison PSD proposes to replace the West Fork sanitary sewer crossing, and convert the existing siphon structure to a conventional pump station.

Customer Density: N/A

Cost per Customer: \$386

Taken from the total project cost estimate of \$1,250,000 spread over 3,237 existing customers.

3. Project Feasibility: The project is technically feasible. The cost per customer is reasonable. The project will address an exposed river crossing which creates a damage risk and safety concerns in an area with increasing recreational activity and which is located upstream of the Clarksburg Water Board's treatment plant.
4. Project Alternatives: The project evaluated four alternatives which involved replacing the river crossing via open cut versus horizontal directional drill, and rehabilitation of the siphon structure versus converting it to a conventional pump station. The alternative of a conventional pump station and horizontal directional drill was determined to be the most feasible. While each of the other alternatives were slightly less expensive, the chosen alternative reduces the number of river crossings and minimizes disturbance to the riverbed.
5. Consolidation: No consolidation opportunities are presented by the project.
6. Inconsistencies: None were noted.

7. Operation and Maintenance (O & M) Expenses: O & M costs are projected to increase by \$342 annually as a result of the project. Supporting calculations were provided.
8. Engineering Agreement: The application includes information to determine apparent compliance with West Virginia Code §§5G-1-1, et seq. Total technical services (engineering) costs for the project are \$256,500 which is equal to 32.47% of the construction cost of \$790,000 (including contingency).

GREATER HARRISON CO. PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT - SEWER
CASH FLOW ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED: June 30, 2024
APPLICATION NO: 2025S-2709
October 14, 2025

**PREFERRED FUNDING PACKAGE
SCENARIO 1**

	Cash Flow Going Level Per Application Before Project	Cash Flow Proforma Per Application with Project	Staff Adjustments	Per Staff Analysis
	1	2	3	4
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AVAILABLE CASH				
Operating Revenues	3,530,185	3,530,185	-	3,530,185
Other Operating Revenue	92,106	92,106	-	92,106
SB 234 Annual Working Cash Collections	164,889	164,889	-	164,889
Interest Income & Other Misc.	135,205	135,205	-	135,205
Total Cash Available	3,922,385	3,922,385	-	3,922,385
OPERATING DEDUCTIONS				
Operating Expenses	1,853,584	1,853,926	-	1,853,926
Taxes	26,693	26,693	-	26,693
Total Cash Requirements Before Debt Service	1,880,277	1,880,619	-	1,880,619
Cash Available for Debt Service (A)	2,042,108	2,041,766	-	2,041,766
DEBT SERVICE REQUIREMENTS				
Principal & Interest (B)	1,427,557	1,427,557	-	1,427,557
Other Debt	12,528	12,528	-	12,528
Reserve Account @ 10%	150,887	150,887	-	150,887
Renewal & Replacement Fund (2.5%)	239,207	239,207	(148,650) (1)	90,557
Total Debt Service Requirement	1,830,179	1,830,179	(148,650)	1,681,529
SB 234 Cash Working Capital	164,889	164,889	-	164,889
Remaining Cash	47,040	46,698	148,650	195,348
Percent Coverage (A) / (B)	143.05%	143.03%		143.03%
Average rate for 3,400 gallons	\$ 78.95	\$ 86.05	\$ -	\$ 86.05
Average rate for 4,000 gallons	\$ 89.41	\$ 97.46	\$ -	\$ 97.46

Staff Adjustments			
		\$	Increase <Decrease>
<u>Adjustment Description</u>			
(1)	Renewal & Replacement Fund (2.5%)		
	Per Staff Analysis	90,557	(148,650)
	Per Application with Project	239,207	

Staff used 2.5% of the projection of "Operating & Other Revenues" as the basis of the renewal & replacement fund.

GREATER HARRISON CO. PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT - SEWER
CASH FLOW ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED: June 30, 2024
APPLICATION NO: 2025S-2709
October 14, 2025

**LOAN PACKAGE
SCENARIO 2**

		Cash Flow Going Level Per Application Before Project	Cash Flow Proforma Per Application with Project	Staff Adjustments	Per Staff Analysis
		1	2	3	4
		\$	\$	\$	\$
<u>AVAILABLE CASH</u>					
Operating Revenues		3,530,185	3,565,487	-	3,565,487
Other Operating Revenue		92,106	92,973	-	92,973
SB 234 Annual Working Cash Collections		164,889	166,538	-	166,538
Interest Income & Other Misc.		135,205	135,205	-	135,205
Total Cash Available		3,922,385	3,960,203	-	3,960,203
<u>OPERATING DEDUCTIONS</u>					
Operating Expenses		1,853,584	1,853,926	-	1,853,926
Taxes		26,693	26,693	-	26,693
Total Cash Requirements Before Debt Service		1,880,277	1,880,619	-	1,880,619
Cash Available for Debt Service	(A)	2,042,108	2,079,584	-	2,079,584
<u>DEBT SERVICE REQUIREMENTS</u>					
Principal & Interest	(B)	1,427,557	1,501,100	(36,490) (1)	1,464,610
Other Debt		12,528	12,528	-	12,528
Reserve Account @ 10%		150,887	158,241	(3,649) (2)	154,592
Renewal & Replacement Fund (2.5%)		239,207	239,207	(147,745) (3)	91,462
Total Debt Service Requirement		1,830,179	1,911,076	(187,884)	1,723,191
SB 234 Cash Working Capital		164,889	166,538	-	166,538
Remaining Cash		47,040	1,970	187,884	189,855
Percent Coverage	(A) / (B)	143.05%	138.54%		141.99%
Average rate for 3,400 gallons		\$ 78.95	\$ 86.91	\$ -	\$ 86.91
Average rate for 4,000 gallons		\$ 89.41	\$ 98.42	\$ -	\$ 98.42

GREATER HARRISON CO. PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT - SEWER
CASH FLOW ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED: June 30, 2024
APPLICATION NO: 2025S-2709

Attachment B
LOAN PACKAGE
SCENARIO 2

Staff Adjustments

<u>Adjustment Description</u>		\$	Increase <Decrease>	
(1)	Principal & Interest	Per Staff Analysis Per Application with Project	1,464,610 1,501,100	(36,490)
The difference in P&I is related to Staff's calculation of a loan of \$625,000 for 40 years (paid over 38 years) at 5%.				
(2)	Reserve Account @ 10%	Per Staff Analysis Per Application with Project	154,592 158,241	(3,649)
Staff assumed a 10% reserve on the new debt.				
(3)	Renewal & Replacement Fund (2.5%)	Per Staff Analysis Per Application with Project	91,462 239,207	(147,745)
Staff used 2.5% of the projection of "Operating & Other Revenues" as the basis of the renewal & replacement fund.				