



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
Meredith J. Vance, Director, Environmental Engineering Division, BPH

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

Date: October 14, 2025

Subject: Kanawha County Regional Development Authority
IJDC Application - 2025W-2715
Laurel Fork Water Line Extension

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 water 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.

Promoting a healthy environment.

- c. ____ The Funding Committee does not need to review the funding assumptions on this project because of deficiencies in the engineering report. The proposed project should be tabled for the consultant to address technical comments.
- d. ____ This project should be referred to the Consolidation Committee.

3. Other remarks:

This project will extend water service to 33 new customers in the Laurel Fork area. The residents currently have wells, cisterns, and/or haul water for their source. The potential customers have made formal requests for water due to their low quantity and quantity issues of their existing source. This project will address these issues.

The total project cost is \$3,000,000 and the RDA intends to pursue a \$1,000,000 WV IJDC Grant and a \$1,798,000 USACE Grant, and \$202,000 from WVAW

Preliminary Project Ratings:

Public Health Benefits: 5
Compliance with Standards: 5



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MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Spencer Fultineer, DWWM

DATE: October 14, 2025

SUBJECT: Kanawha County Regional Development Authority
IJDC Application - 2025W-2715
Laurel Fork Water Line Extension

RECOMMENDATION

The IJDC Application and Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) prepared by Potesta & Associates, Inc. for the above referenced project has been reviewed and is technically feasible.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Kanawha County Regional Development Authority (RDA) owns a water distribution system operated in Kanawha County through an agreement with West Virginia American Water (WVAW). Kanawha County RDA plans to extend this system to 33 new customers in the Laurel Fork area. There is currently no water system serving the Laurel fork area.

The proposed project will eliminate private wells and cisterns and provide reliable and treated water. The proposed line extension will be 8-inch, 6-inch, and 2-inch line water lines.

The proposed total cost for this project is \$3,000,000 and the RDA intends to pursue a \$1,000,000 WV IJDC Grant and a \$1.798,000 USACE Grant, and \$202,000 from WVAW . The proposed monthly rate will be \$82.40 (2.26% MHI) for 3,400 gallons.

NEED FOR PROJECT

The 33 potential customers in this area are currently utilizing private wells and/or cisterns. The residents have stated that the quality and quantity of the water is poor. This can be corrected through connection to a water system that can provide a consistent quantity of treated water to the area. These current methods have potential for microbial and inorganic contaminants. Being connected to a consistent source of treated water will eliminate the need for frequent water deliveries.

DEFICIENCIES/COMMENTS

- Using the Combined Application, the Design, and Total Engineering Fees appear to be within the ASCE Curves.
- User agreements and ROWs need to be obtained.

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



September 30, 2025

Meredith J. Vance
Office of Environmental Health Services
350 Capitol Street, Room 313
Charleston, West Virginia 25301-3713

Re: Public Service Commission Staff Review Comments
Application No. 2025W-2715
Kanawha County RDA – Waterline Extension (Laurel Fork)
Infrastructure Preliminary Application

Dear Ms. Vance:

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
BC:

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF
TECHNICAL REVIEW**

DATE: September 30, 2025

**PROJECT SPONSOR: KANAWHA COUNTY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY - WATER**

PROJECT SUMMARY: The Kanawha County RDA, in cooperation with West Virginia American Water (a public-private partnership), is proposing to extend water service to 33 potential water customers along Laurel Fork Road.

PROPOSED FUNDING: IJDC Grant	\$ 1,000,000
USACE	1,798,000
WVAWC Contribution	<u>202,000</u>
Total	\$ 3,000,000

CURRENT/PROPOSED

RATES:	\$77.00	3,400 gallons (plus 7.01% DSIC= \$82.40)
	\$88.12	4,000 gallons (plus 7.01% DSIC= \$94.30)

Application No. 2025W-2715

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

FINANCIAL: Dave Acord, II

1. Current rates (\$77.00 for 3,400 gallons) are above the rate attributable to 1.25% (\$49.09), 1.5% (\$58.90), and 1.75% (\$68.72) of the Median Household Income (MHI) , but below 2% (\$78.54) of the MHI.

2. NOTES TO COMMENTS

- A. Since the Applicant's rates and the operation and maintenance costs are "rolled into" the operations of the West Virginia-American Water Company (WVAWC), no cash flow is attached. The current rates apply to many customers over a large geographical area who share the aggregated revenue requirements of the WVAWC. The Kanawha County RDA contracts with WVAWC for the operation of the water distribution

facilities and customer services; the Kanawha County RDA does not operate any water facilities.

- B. WVAWC's contribution per customer, under the Commission's main extension rule, is approximately \$6,743 per customer. This assumes there are no further costs incurred on the extension. In this application, the Applicant proposes that WVAWC contribute \$202,000 toward the project. If the WVAWC contribution is based upon \$6,743 per potential customer, then they would provide \$202,290 (\$6,743 x 30 new customers). An agreement with WVAWC detailing the amount and terms of their contribution should be filed with the Commission along with any CN filing made in this matter, if applicable.
- C. On April 7, 2014, the Commission issued an Order in Case No. 11-1451-W-C (involving public/private partnerships) which ordered that WVAWC among other items, has an obligation to contribute the amount required by Water Rule 5.5 (now Water Rule 7.5) toward a proposed project as modified by substituting the current company average usage into the formula.
- D. Staff notes that the project sponsor requested a Draft Rule 42 Exhibit waiver.

ENGINEERING: Brandon Crace

- 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: The Kanawha County RDA, in cooperation with West Virginia American Water (a public-private partnership), is proposing to extend water service to 33 potential water customers along Laurel Fork Road. The proposed project scope includes: 1600 LF of 8-inch PVC waterline , 14380 LF of 6-inch PVC waterline, 6060 LF of 2-inch PVC waterline, 8 fire hydrants, 5 blow-off assembly, 3 automatic air release valves, 33 water service setters, 860 LF of 3/4-inch service line, 12 one (1) 8-inch gate valve (w/box and cover), eight (8) 6-inch gate valves (w/box and cover), five (5) 2-inch threaded gate valves (w/box and cover), a 2-inch branch connection, five (5) 2-inch tie-ins, 1 tapping sleeve and valve, 49 concrete thrust blocks, 120 LF of 12-inch steel casing bore & jack road crossing, 60 LF of 4-inch casing bore & jack road crossing, 21,680 LF of WVDOH shoulder/ditch restoration,

180 LF of WVDOH Type C trench repair, 60 LF of concrete driveway restoration, 120 LF of asphalt driveway restoration, 300 LF of stone driveway restoration, and all necessary appurtenances. The estimated construction cost is \$2,285,000 (includes 10.01% construction contingency), and the estimated total project cost is \$3,000,000 (includes 2.14% project contingency).

Need: The PER indicates that residents within the project area currently utilize private water sources (wells and cisterns), with potential microbial and inorganic contaminants. Additionally, the PER states resident in the area have expressed a desire for water and there have been numerous requests from the residents to get public water.

Customer Density: Based upon the provided water main pipe quantities (22,040 LF), the proposed water line extensions total approximately 4.17 mile. This is approximately equivalent to 8 customers per mile.

Cost per Customer: Based upon the estimated total project cost of \$3,000,000, and proposing to have 33 new customers, the cost to serve each new customer is \$90,909. However, the project is 100% grant and contribution funded; therefore, the proposed borrowing is \$0.

3. Project Feasibility: The project appears to be technically feasible and poses little technical risk.
4. Project Alternatives: The PER did not include an evaluation of alternatives.
5. Consolidation: There are no consolidation opportunities presented by this project.
6. Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Expenses: The PER indicates WVAWC will be responsible for all O&M costs, and estimates an increase of \$1,303 in annual O&M costs. The PER states "...the O&M costs are minimal for WVAW.", and "No rate increase will be required by WVAW to serve the potential customers added by this project." It can be assumed that WVAWC O&M costs will increase due to the addition of waterline, fire hydrants, valves, and increased water treatment demand.
7. Engineering Agreement: The application includes information to determine compliance with West Virginia Code §5G-1-1, *et seq.* Total technical

services (engineering) costs for the project are \$450,000, which is equal to 19.69% of the construction cost of \$2,285,000 (includes construction contingency).

8. Deficiencies/Comments:

- Neither the Application or PER includes documentation of community support (evidence of public meetings, written requests for water service, user sign-ups, etc.).
- The PER states the private wells and/or cisterns may have "...potential microbial and inorganic contaminants.", however, no supporting documents were included for review.



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M E M O R A N D U M

MEMO TO: Meredith J Vance
Office of Environmental Health Services
Bureau for Public Health

FROM: Brian D Bailey *BB*
Technical Analyst
General Permits & Support Team

DATE: September 17, 2025

SUBJECT: Infrastructure Preliminary Application for the Kanawha County RDA
(2025W-2715): Laurel Fork Waterline Extension in Kanawha County, WV.

We have reviewed the above referenced project application information. The Kanawha County RDA purchases water from WV American Water. No NPDES permit modifications are necessary.

If the Kanawha County RDA is considering repairing and painting an existing water treatment plant or storage tanks, then the scope of this project requires precautions to prevent contamination of the waters of the state. Prior to beginning any removal of old paint, the Kanawha County RDA should contact Mr. Brad Wright or a member of his staff at (304)-926-0499, extension 49746 for guidance in determining whether the paint to be removed is considered a hazardous waste. If so, proper containment and disposal procedures must be followed for the paint and any material associated with the sandblasting. If it is determined that the paint is not hazardous, the Kanawha County RDA should contact John Lockhart or a member of his staff at (304)-926-0499, extension 43889 for proper disposal options.

Construction activities with a disturbed area of one (1) acre or greater are now required to register for the NPDES Storm Water Construction General Permit No. WV0115924 that became effective on April 6, 2024. Projects registered under the previous General Permit No. WV0115100 were automatically provided coverage under WV/NPDES General Permit

No. WV0115924. For more information, they may contact Larry Board at (304)-926-0499, extension 43883.

In light of the above, we have no objection to this project as long as the appropriate provisions are taken to assure compliance with Chapter 22, Article 11, of the Code of West Virginia and any associated regulations. The responsible party may contact Mylinda Maddox (304) 926-0499 ext. 43825, should additional information be required.

BDB:mam

cc: Katheryn Emery