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west virginia department of environmental protection

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Division of Water and Waste Management  
601 57<sup>th</sup> 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. Engineer Chief  
Sewer Technical Review Committee

**Date:** January 15, 2025

**Subject:** City of Pennsboro  
IJDC Application - 2024W-2630  
Bonds Creek - Highland Road Waterline Extension Project

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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 water 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 because of deficiencies in the engineering report. The proposed project should be returned for technical comments.
- d.  This project should be referred to the Consolidation Committee.

3. Other remarks:

The proposed project should be returned to give the consultant additional time to address the comments. Please note the BPH analysis of the data provided. It is critical to determine if the lead detected is coming from the home fixtures or the groundwater. If it is an internal plumbing issue, the homeowners need to be aware of the problem. Pennsboro should also be aware that if it's a plumbing issue, that a change in source may increase the lead in the drinking water in some of the homes. All of these concerns should be evaluated for the safety of the residents so that they can be addressed in the project.

This project proposes to extend public water service to approximately 70 new residential customers that live in the Bonds Creek and Highland Road area of Ritchie County. An interconnect with the Town of Ellenboro's proposed extension will also be completed.

The proposed total cost for this project is \$7,150,000 and Pennsboro intends to pursue a \$7,120,000 WDA Economic Enhancement Grant Fund, and a \$30,000 Ritchie County Commission Grant. While the City is further evaluating the project scope, they should also work with the funding agencies to ensure that a viable funding scenario is proposed upon resubmittal.

Using the Combined Application, the Total Engineering Fee and the Design Fee appear to be within the ASCE curve.

Preliminary Project Ratings:

Public Health Benefits: 15  
Compliance with Standards: 5



Emery, Kathryn D &lt;katheryn.d.emery@wv.gov&gt;

## Re: Bonds Creek Water Project

1 message

Vance, Meredith J &lt;meredith.j.vance@wv.gov&gt;

Fri, Jan 10, 2025 at 9:16 AM

To: "Emery, Kathryn D" &lt;katheryn.d.emery@wv.gov&gt;

Cc: Jason S Billups &lt;jason.s.billups@wv.gov&gt;, Paul E Daniels &lt;paul.e.daniels@wv.gov&gt;

BPH has received 18 residential sample results and 1 commercial sample result for lead and arsenic from the Bonds Creeks Road area including addresses from Bonds Creek Road, Walnut Grove Road, Stone Road, Highland Road and Hebron Road.

Of these 19 sample results, two of the addresses showed arsenic results above the EPA's maximum contaminant level (MCL) for arsenic. The National Primary Drinking Water Regulation MCL for arsenic is 10 ppb. The results from the two addresses were 12.4 ppb and 11.0 ppb. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Of the remaining sample locations, three of the addresses showed arsenic results greater than half the MCL (5 ppb), but less than the MCL (10 ppb). Nine of the addresses had arsenic results less than half the MCL (5 ppb) and five addresses did not have detectable levels of arsenic.

### Summary of Arsenic Results:

Greater than MCL (10 ppb) - 2 addresses

Between 5 ppb and 10 ppb - 3 addresses

Less than 5 ppb - 9 addresses

Not detected - 5 addresses

For the lead results, there was one sample that exceeded the action level (15 ppb) for lead in drinking water. That result was 21.7 ppb, however, it was collected at an outside spigot. Sampling for lead in drinking water should be collected at a sink routinely used for consumption and after a 6 hour stagnation period. Furthermore, lead is typically not found in groundwater in WV. While it is possible that the lead could be coming from the groundwater, it's more likely that the lead is leaching from the plumbing or fixtures in the home. Changing the source will likely not lower the lead levels. It's also possible that a change in source will increase the lead levels in the drinking water in some homes. The additional samples were all below the action level of 15 ppb.

### Summary of Lead Results:

Greater than Action Level (15 ppb) - 1 address (outside spigot)

Between 10 ppb and 15 ppb - 1 address (outside spigot)

Between 5 ppb and 10 ppb - zero

Less than 5 ppb - 12 addresses

Not detected - 5 addresses

On Thu, Jan 9, 2025 at 1:21 PM Emery, Kathryn D <katheryn.d.emery@wv.gov> wrote:

Meredith - Do we need to talk? Were the samples taken correctly? Do they need to take more? He just called me and said the County Sanitarian did the samples.

Kathy

On Thu, Jan 9, 2025 at 1:15 PM Robert Riggs <roblee63@yahoo.com> wrote:

This is Mayor Robert Riggs City of Pennsboro was the test results on the original test that gave the location of the samples all you need  
or is there something else that is needed ?

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**Meredith J. Vance**

Environmental Engineering Division Director  
West Virginia Department of Health

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Phone: 304-926-0495 / Fax: 304-926-0463

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

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Katheryn Emery, P.E., Engineer Chief, DWWM

**FROM:** Jesse Rupe, P.E., DWWM

**DATE:** December 5, 2024

**SUBJECT:** City of Pennsboro  
IJDC Application - 2024W-2630  
Bonds Creek - Highland Road Waterline Extension Project

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### RECOMMENDATION

The IJDC Application and Preliminary Engineering Report prepared by The Thrasher Group, Inc. for the above referenced project has been reviewed and is not technically feasible. The comments should be considered prior to resubmittal.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Pennsboro operates a water distribution system under (PWSID # 3304306) in Ritchie County, West Virginia. Pennsboro provides drinking water to approximately 616 total customers, including one resale customer. The distribution system includes 3 water storage tanks and has a total storage capacity of 960,000 gallons. The Hughes River Water Board water treatment plant (WTP) has a 2.5 million gallon per day (MGD) capacity.

This project proposes to extend public water service to approximately 70 new residential customers that live in the Bonds Creek and Highland Road area of Ritchie County. The proposed extension will provide water service and fire protection along Bonds Creek Road from its intersection with Pullman Drive (State Rt. 74) to the intersection with County Route 16/4, and interconnect with the end of the Town of Ellenboro's proposed extension. Construction would consist of the installation of new 6" and 8" water main lines, 2" service lines, a new 64,000 gallon storage tank, one new booster station, a new master meter at the interconnection to the proposed Ellenboro system, and 15 new fire hydrants.

The proposed total cost for this project is \$7,150,000 and Pennsboro intends to pursue a \$7,120,000 WDA Economic Enhancement Grant Fund, and a \$30,000 Ritchie County Commission Grant. The proposed monthly rate for 3,400 gallons is \$60.48 (1.74% MHI).

### **NEED FOR PROJECT**

The proposed water line extension is proposed to provide residents along Highland Road and Bonds Creek Road with a reliable source of safe drinking water. All the residents that will be served by the proposed extension currently obtain potable water from private wells. The wells/cisterns serving the homes are problematic because of the unreliability of available water and lack of clean water.

### **DEFICIENCIES/COMMENTS**

- It should be noted that Pennsboro has received petitions requesting water service from 43 of the 70 potential new customers.
- It is recommended that further sampling be conducted via BPH sampling guidelines to confirm that the contamination is located in the private wells and there isn't further contamination being introduced through the plumbing of each house.
- Using the Combined Application, the Design, and Total Engineering Fees appear to be within the ASCE Curves.

#### **Preliminary Project Ratings:**

Public Health Benefits: 15  
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



January 15, 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. 2024W-2630  
City of Pennsboro – Water System Extension, Bonds Creek  
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,

*Jonathan M Fowler*  
Jonathan M. Fowler, P.E.  
Engineering Division

Enclosures  
JMF:vb

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF  
TECHNICAL REVIEW**

**DATE:** January 14, 2025

**PROJECT SPONSOR:** CITY OF PENNSBORO – (WATER)

**PROJECT SUMMARY:** Water line extension due to poor quality and quantity. New booster station and tank. Project will serve approximately 75 residents in the Highland/Bonds Creek area.

<b>PROPOSED FUNDING:</b> Richie County Commission Grant	\$30,000
WDA Economic Enhancement Grant	<u>\$7,120,000</u>
Total	\$7,150,000

**CURRENT/PROPOSED  
RATES:**

<b>Schedule I</b>	\$60.48	3,400 gallons
	\$70.72	4,000 gallons
<b>Schedule II</b>	\$74.34	3,400 gallons
	\$86.95	4,000 gallons

Application No. 2024W-2630

**RECOMMENDATION:**  forward to the Funding Committee.  
 forward to the Consolidation Committee.  
 return to the Applicant.

Owing to the limited amount of grant funds available, Staff recommends that this application be returned and that the applicant be encouraged to develop a more realistic funding package.