



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES  
Bureau for Public Health  
Office of Environmental Health Services

Bill J. Crouch  
Cabinet Secretary

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Meredith J. Vance, Director  
Environmental Engineering Division

**FROM:** Christopher Thomas, EIT. *Christopher W. Thomas*  
Infrastructure & Capacity Development

**DATE:** November 22, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Preston County PSD #1  
IJDC Application- 2022W-2265  
Waterline Extension and Masontown Interconnection  
Preston County

**Recommendation:**

This preliminary application is recommended to be tabled to give time to address BPH and PSC comments.

**Project Scope:**

This Preliminary Application proposes to extend water service to the Masontown Municipal Water Department (Masontown) to serve 150 new customers that Masontown does not have capacity to serve. The project will also provide an interconnection to allow the PSD to supply the entirety of Masontown's system if the current water supply purchased from the Morgantown Utility Board (MUB) is insufficient or disrupted. The project will consist of installing approximately 1.7 miles of 8-inch watermain, one (1) 300 GPM booster pump station, telemetry, ten (10) fire hydrants, Ten (10) gate valves, two (2) air release valves, various trench repairs, and all necessary appurtenances.

The cost per customer is **\$13,333** for the project. The total project cost is **\$2,000,000** (Congressionally Directed Spending Grant: **\$646,00093**; Preston County Commission ARPA Grant: **\$670,000**; Economic Enhancement Grant (EEG): **\$684,000**).

**Need for the Project:**

Masontown does not have capacity to serve 150 new customers wanting water. MUB sometimes cannot supply enough water to keep Masontown's water tanks full. This project will provide additional capacity to serve new customers and interconnect with the Masontown system to provide up to the full needs of Masontown on an as needed basis through this water main from the PSD.

### **Concerns:**

- The amount of the EEG funding needed is inconsistent. The PER cost estimate EEG is \$684,000, while the Application, Letter from IJDC and other places in PER has the EEG amount of \$634,000. The higher amount is used in this memo because it is needed to bring the funding total to the total project cost of \$2,000,000.
- The project cost estimate and the draft Schedule B in the PER are not the same. The project cost estimate was used in this memo.
- There were no alternatives proposed for the project. The PER indicated there is no other source of water for the project. This was backed up with a letter from MUB indicating they are unable to provide the additional water capacity sought by Masontown.

### **Permits:**

A permit will be required from the WV Bureau for Public Health prior to construction. Construction activities with a disturbed area of one (1) acre or greater are required to register for the NPDES Storm Water Construction General Permit No. WV0115924.

A permit for stream crossings may be required.

A Certificate of Convenience and Necessity will be required from the PSC.

A permit from the WV Division of Highways will be required for the construction activities that will take place within WVDOH right-of-way.

**Engineering:** 8.00% for design, 21.87% for total.

The Design Fees vs. Construction Cost for new construction is above the average complexity curve and the very complex curve. The Design Fees vs. Construction Cost for modifications is on the average complexity curve and below the very complex curve. The Total Fees vs. Construction Cost for new construction is above both the average complexity curve and the very complex curve. The Total Fees vs. Construction Cost for modified construction is above both the average complexity curve and the very complex curve. A fee waiver **will be** required for this project.

### **Asset Management Plan and Annual Maintenance Audit:**

The system marked the question in the application concerning an asset management plan as “No”.

### **Capacity Development:**

The question about having had a capacity development assessment (CDA) within the last 5 years was marked as “No.” An assessment has not been done on Preston County PSD #1.

Additional information that may be helpful to the IJDC in their decisions regarding approval of this project relates to the system’s overall compliance. The Preston County PSD #1 has a score of 21 on the July 2022 quarter of the EPA’s Compliance Tracking Tool (ETT). The current score is

above the EPA's action level of 11. This indicates the system has some unaddressed compliance issues including:

- Failure to certify the CCR in 2021
- Failure to monitor for various analytes in 2021

Based upon information from the Municipal Bond Commission, as of September 2022, the Preston County PSD #1 is current on their water reserve funding requirements.

**IJDC Ranking:**

- Public Health Benefit: 5
- Compliance: 10