



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., Engineer Chief
Sewer Technical Review Committee

Date: March 19, 2025

Subject: Sun Valley Public Service District
IJDC Application - 2024W-2634
Indian Run Water Line Extension

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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 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 potable water service to 20 potential customers on Indian Run Road. These potential customers on Indian Run Road currently rely on wells. A decrease in well water quality has occurred, rendering them unusable. The current wells stains appliances and clothes, and has an odor that makes it unsuitable for laundry or washing dishes..

The total cost for this project is \$1,900,000 and the PSD intends to pursue a WVIJDC critical need grant for the total amount.

Prior to closing, the PSD needs to demonstrate compliance with how the Lead and Copper Rule requirements will be met and how the applicant will ensure compliance with the regulatory agencies. The applicant should be advised to notify the potential customers regarding the possibility that switching to a new water source could result in elevated levels of lead originating in their existing plumbing.

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: 5
Compliance with Standards: 5



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MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Justin Moffitt, P.E., DWWM

DATE: March 10, 2025

SUBJECT: Sun Valley Public Service District
IJDC Application - 2024W-2634
Indian Run Water Line Extension

RECOMMENDATION

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

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Sun Valley Public Service District (Sun Valley PSD) owns and operates a potable water distribution system in Harrison County, West Virginia. Their source of water is purchased from the Clarksburg Water Board (CWB) and distributes it to 1,286 customers. Sun Valley PSD system (PWSID #WV3301726) consists of four (4) potable water storage tanks with a total storage capacity of 1,166,000 Gallons, two (2) water booster pumping stations, and a distribution system of approximately 401,283 linear feet of water line ranging in size from 2” to 12”.

Sun Valley PSD is proposing to extend potable water service to residents on Indian Run Road. This proposed extension will add approximately 20 customers to the Sun Valley PSD system. This extension will consist of approximately 17,000 LF of 4” water line, 2,000 LF of 2” water line, 20 high-pressure water meter settings, and all other appurtenances required for a water line extension.

The proposed project is \$1,900,000 and the PSD intends to pursue a WVIJDC critical need grant for the total amount.

NEED FOR PROJECT

The proposed project addresses a need for safe, reliable water service in the Indian Run Road area. Some residents along Indian Run are served by a 6” water line the Sun Valley PSD owns, but the line ends approximately 1.0 miles after its intersection from Marshville Road. Currently, the residents on Indian Run Road past the terminus of the water line rely on wells. However, a decrease in water quality occurred in the wells, rendering them unusable. Because of the poor water quality, it is also insufficient to wash clothes, cook with, and even take showers at certain residences. The water is miscolored, stains appliances and clothes, and has an odor that makes it unsuitable for laundry or washing dishes.

Many residents are required to purchase and haul water to their homes to have an adequate supply of safe drinking water. This is not an effective or reliable method of providing safe drinking water to their homes. The Sun Valley PSD has previously installed a metered frost-free yard hydrant at the end of their existing 6” water line on Indian Run Road. Unserved residents on Indian Run Road can access the hydrant so that they can have safe water for their homes. While this does provide temporary access to safe water to the residents along Indian Run Road, it is not a long-term solution. The proposed project is necessary to provide safe, reliable drinking water to unserved residents on Indian Run Road.

DEFICIENCIES/COMMENTS

- Using the Combined Application, the Design, and Total Engineering Fees appear to be within the ASCE Curves.
- A map of the existing system should be included in the PER.
- Samples for laboratory analysis are from 2012.

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



March 13, 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-2634
Sun Valley PSD – Water System Extension
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: March 13, 2025

PROJECT SPONSOR: SUN VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT - WATER

PROJECT SUMMARY: Water service to approximately 20 customers on Indian Run near Marshville with contaminated wells or wells gone dry.

PROPOSED FUNDING: IJDC Critical Needs Grant	<u>\$1,900,000</u>
Total	\$1,900,000

CURRENT/ PROPOSED RATES:	\$62.22	3,400 gallons
	\$72.83	4,000 gallons

Application No. 2024W-2634

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

FINANCIAL: William Nelson

1. Current rates (\$62.22 for 3,400 gallons) are above the rates attributable to 1.25% (\$54.31) of the Median Household Income (MHI), but below the rates attributable to 1.5% (\$65.17), 1.75% (\$76.03), and 2% (\$86.89) of the Median Household Income.
2. For purposes of this review, Staff is assuming 100% grant funding. Therefore, no cash flow is provided.
3. Notes to Comments:
 - A. Staff used the MHI for Harrison County of \$52,134 from the 2020 U.S. Census versus the MHI of \$40,114 that was listed in the application.
 - B. Staff notes the project sponsor is requesting a waiver of the Draft Rule 42 Exhibit requirement. We have no objection to this request.

C. 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. The project sponsor would need to have non-restricted funds available to meet the 1/8 requirement, otherwise, it may need to take steps to fund this reserve. This 1/8 requirement, along with any steps taken to fund this reserve, may be evaluated by the Commission in future filings in accordance with Public Service Commission General Order 183.11.

ENGINEERING: Jim Spurlock

1. This project might not require a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity from the PSC. The project sponsor should consult with Staff pursuant to the requirements of General Order 246 for such determination. If a Certificate is required, the utility should reference this application number on the PSC's Form No. 4 when its application is filed at the Commission given the requirement of West Virginia Code 24-2-11 (c) and (e). Staff notes that an affirmative determination of need for the project must be established in a Certificate filing at the PSC.
1. Scope: This is a "critical needs" application to extend potable water service to residents on Indian Run Road. This proposed extension will add approximately 20 customers to the Sun Valley PSD system. This extension will consist of approximately 17,000 LF of 4" water line, 2,000 LF of 2" water line, 20 high-pressure water meter settings, and all other appurtenances required for a water line extension. The construction cost is estimated at \$1,460,000 and the project cost is estimated to be \$1,900,000.

Customer Density: 5.6 customers/mile; this is moderately low.
Cost per Customer: \$95,000; this is marginally acceptable.

2. Project Feasibility: The project is technically feasible. The cost per customer is acceptable. The project will provide public water service to customers who currently rely on private wells. The PER contains 20 signed user agreements showing **100% participation** by the area's residents. Additional information was provided to illustrate problems with

quality and quantity of water from the resident's wells.

3. Project Alternatives: No alternatives were presented, as the existing line to be extended is the only available water source for the area.
4. Consolidation: No consolidation opportunities are presented by the project.
5. Inconsistencies: None fatal issues were noted.
6. Operation and Maintenance (O & M) Expenses: An increase in the amount of \$4,250 (rounded) per year is projected. Supporting calculations were provided.
7. 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 \$300,000 which is equal to 20.6% of the construction cost of \$1,460,000 (including contingency).
8. Comments
 - The applicant should be advised to notify the potential customers regarding the possibility that switching to a water new source could result in elevated levels of lead originating with their existing plumbing. This notice should occur before the project is placed into service and should be made only after consultation with the Bureau for Public Health.



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MEMORANDUM

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: February 19, 2025

SUBJECT: Infrastructure Preliminary Application for the Sun Valley PSD (2024W-2634):
Indian Run Road Waterline Ext.in Harrison County, WV.

We have reviewed the above referenced project application information. The Sun Valley PSD, purchases its water from the Clarksburg Water Board. No NPDES permit modifications are necessary.

If the Sun Valley PSD 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 Sun Valley PSD 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 Sun Valley PSD 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

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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