



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: August 15, 2025

Subject: Town of West Hamlin
IJDC Application - 2020W-1876
Water Plant Upgrade Scope and Funding Change

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:

The proposed project should be tabled until the September 2025 funding committee meeting to allow time for the Consultant to review technical and funding concerns. This was discussed with the Consultant.



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MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Chantz Rankin, E.I., DWWM

DATE: August 12, 2025

SUBJECT: Town of West Hamlin
IJDC Application - 2020W-1876
Water Plant Upgrade Scope and Funding Change

RECOMMENDATION

The request for scope and funding change of the above-mentioned project submitted by The Thrasher Group, Inc. has been reviewed and should be tabled to the September 2025 funding/technical meeting.

DISCUSSION

The Town of West Hamlin (Town) owns and operates a Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and distribution system under Public Water System Identification number (PWSID#) WV3302203 in Lincoln County, WV. The system serves approximately 1,000 customers in West Hamlin, and an additional 1,200 customers in the Branchland-Midkiff Public Service District (PSD). The Town's system consists of a 560 gallon per minute (gpm) water treatment plant, four (4) water storage tanks, 41 miles of water mains, and one booster station.

In 2019, the Town began pursuing a project to upgrade the existing WTP and refurbish the four existing water tanks. The Town received a funding recommendation from the IJDC on June 5, 2020; proposing the project would be funded by a USDA Grant and USDA Loan. The total

project amounted to \$5,682,100. Since 2020, the costs have increased and the current funding scenarios are no longer available.

The proposed scope and funding change phases the project into two phases. Phase I will include the tank improvements; which include the cleaning, re-caulking, and repainting of the tanks. This phase will also include the design of the WTP upgrade. Phase II will encompass the upgrade of the treatment facility. The only significant change in the scope of work proposed in Phase II is the need to replace, rather than refurbish the existing pre-sedimentation basin.

COMMENTS/CONCERNS

The issue with including the design costs for Phase II in Phase I, is that the design funding for Phase 2 is \$ 590,000. The Phase II project may not materialize, and the evaluation of consolidation or purchasing of water should be considered. The funding scenarios proposed for Phase I and Phase II are shown below:

Phase I (Tank Improvements)

DWTRF (Debt Forgiveness)	\$ 1,500,000
IJDC Grant	\$ 500,000
<u>EEG Grant</u>	<u>\$ 550,000</u>
Total Project Cost	\$ 2,550,000

Phase II (Treatment Facility Upgrades)

ARC Grant	\$ 2,500,000
DWTRF Loan	\$ 3,600,000
DWTRF (Debt Forgiveness)	\$ 1,500,000
IJDC Grant	\$ 500,000
<u>Local (Branchland-Midkiff PSD)</u>	<u>\$ 1,000,000</u>
Total Project Cost	\$ 9,100,000

Public Service Commission of West Virginia

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

Phone: (304) 340-0300
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August 11, 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. 2020W-1876
West Hamlin, Town of – Water System Improvements
Infrastructure Preliminary Application

Dear Ms. Vance:

As requested, the Technical Staff of the Public Service Commission of West Virginia has reviewed the above-referenced Infrastructure application. As the Applicant has not yet responded to Technical Staff's June 2025 comments, we are recommending the application be:

☐ Forwarded to the Funding Committee

☐ Forwarded to the Consolidation Committee

☒ Tabled to allow the Applicant time to respond to comments

Please advise if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Brandon Crace
Engineering Division

Enclosures
BC: