



**Approved  
Town of Ridgefield  
Water Pollution Control Authority**

**WPCA Regular Meeting  
June 24, 2021 5:30 p.m.  
66 Prospect Street  
Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877**

WPCA: Amy Siebert, Gary Zawacki, Ron Hill, Maureen Kozlark  
WPCA Absent: Kevin Briody  
AECOM: Jon Pearson, Matt Formica  
Suez: Jeff Pennell, Ryan Richmond, Jon Arneth

**These are not verbatim minutes of the proceedings but identification of  
general items and specific actions undertaken.**

Meeting held via ZOOM Video Teleconference.

**WPCA Regular Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm by Ms. Siebert**

**1) New Business**

**a) Approval of Minutes**

- i) Motion to approve May 27, 2021 and June 8, 2021 minutes by Mr. Zawacki, seconded by Ms. Kozlark, passing 4-0.

**2) Old Business**

**a) Pullman and Comley Memo**

- i) WPCA will review at the next workshop meeting.

**3) AECOM**

**a) Route 7 PS, Force Main, and WWTF Decommissioning Construction.**

Mr. Pearson noted that following the June 8th special meeting where potential scope reduction options to reduce the cost of the Route 7 project were discussed, a meeting was held with Rudy Marconi, Charlie Fisher, Jake Muller, Amy Siebert, Maureen Kozlark and AECOM participating to review the list and the options were narrowed down to 4 items as follows:

- i) Delete Final Paving of Town Streets from the Contract
- ii) Delete WWTF Demolition from the Contract
- iii) Delete Fiber Optic Cables for Route 7 PS Status and Alarm Communication, use alternate system
- iv) Delete Demolition of Bottom 10 feet of the Existing Pump Station Wet Well and Dry Well

The first meeting with M&O Construction to discuss potential scope reduction items was held earlier today. The meeting went well, and they were receptive to most of the options identified. They agreed to review the potential cost reductions that would be achieved by the four items and several others that they suggested regarding the required trenchless installations. It was agreed that the next meeting would be on July 15<sup>th</sup> to review the potential cost reductions.

It was discussed that there are not enough items that can be removed from the contract scope of work to reduce the cost for the Route 7 project to within the current funds, so the process to secure additional funds needs to move forward. Mr. Pearson suggested scheduling the financial meeting so it can be held promptly once the potential cost reductions are known.

Mr. Pearson discussed that AECOM's efforts to identify and evaluate scope reduction options is not something that was included in the current budget and scope of services on this project, so this effort is being tracked separately as AECOM will be requesting a future budget adjustment to account for these efforts.

#### **b) South Street WWTF Upgrade Construction**

i. Mr. Formica noted that the monthly construction progress virtual meeting was held today and Gary, Jeff, Ryan, and Diana participated. This month construction has continued including:

- The replacement sludge mechanism for Final Settling Tank No. 2 is nearing completion with the installation of the weir/lauder brushes and paint touchup remaining. The flow control gate upstream of PST No. has also been replaced.
- Modifications to the Control Building and Chemical Buildings are continuing, with extensive plumbing and electrical work ongoing and installation of the roofing system nearing completion.
- The second floor slab was placed for the Blower/Garage Building, and work to erect the CMU walls for the second story of the building is ongoing.
- The concrete footings for new Septage Building have been placed, and work is ongoing to install the underslab piping and electrical conduits in preparation for constructing the concrete floor slab.
- The excavation for the new UV/Reaeration Building has been completed, the required rock excavation has been completed, and the deepest part of the building, the dewatering wet well, has been constructed. Work to form and reinforce the base slab for the reaeration tanks is ongoing.
- The new MCC in the Operations Building has been installed and the existing heating equipment is being demolished as the first step in replacement.

ii. AECOM continues to be concerned about Spectraserv's rate of progress to meet the revised project completion date and the April 2022 date for phosphorus removal compliance and DEEP shares that concern. Spectraserv has expended 60% of the contract time (with the 5.3 month extension) and 42% of the project budget. Mr. Pearson noted that AECOM issued a letter to Spectraserv outlining the concerns. Spectraserv is working on a response to the concerns raised in the letter, but also

noted that they are experiencing delays in obtaining materials due to industry wide shortages.

- iii. Mr. Pearson noted that Progress Payment No. 21 for Spectraserv that covers the month of May 2021 in the amount of \$1,026,729.86 has been submitted and AECOM recommends it be approved for payment.
- iv. Mr. Pearson discussed that AECOM is working with a subcontractor, JK Muir, on preparing applications for energy rebates from Eversource for the installation of newer, more efficient equipment and systems as part of this project. The first application to Eversource, which will cover new lighting and HVAC equipment, is nearing completion and will be submitted to Eversource on behalf of the WPCA. In response to a question, Mr. Pearson noted that the energy rebate amounts have not factored into the project funding as the rebate amounts are only determined once the specific equipment being provided by the Contractor are defined.

#### **4) Suez**

- a) Mr. Pennell presented the Suez Environmental report for May 2021 and met all permit requirements.
- b) **Route 7 Wipes**
  - i) Discussed the problem at Route 7 pump station with wipes. Suez must clear the pump station at least once or twice each week.
  - ii) The WPCA will draft a letter to the property owner stating the ramifications of continued discharging of wipes into the pump station.

#### **5) Adjournment**

- a) Motion to adjourn Meeting at 6:13 pm by Mr. Zawacki seconded by Mr. Hill, passing 4-0.

**Submitted by Diana Van Ness**